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Prep News



"If nothing else, value the truth"

VOLUME LXVIII

ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL, FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2004

ISSUE 19

Four juniors help rescue girl from creek

Tim Huether
Core Staff

Juniors Luke Schlafly, Jim Krings, Connor Finnegan, and Eric Venker were enjoying the snow day on Monday by sledding with some friends at GreenBriar Hills Country Club in Kirkwood at 3 p.m. when they noticed a girl sledding down the hill. The event was nothing out of the ordinary; they had been sledding down the steep hill the whole day. But this girl, a 16-year-old student at Kirkwood High School, was backward on her sled, and couldn't see the creek she was quickly approaching.

"There were about 60 or 70 feet from

Senior Project 2004 completed

Timo Kim
Core Staff

For most of January, the east wing of the first floor remained silent. However, yesterday, the hallway once again overflowed with lively enthusiasm as seniors scampered into school after three and a half weeks of Senior Project. Beginning with a Missioning Ceremony on Jan. 5, the 33rd Senior Project sent the 256 seniors out into the community for three and a half weeks of community service. Including sites in Illinois and even Honduras, the more than seventy projects ranged from schools for abused children to retirement homes for veterans.

Today, Senior Project will officially end with an all-school prayer service in the gym.

"(The prayer service) really has three purposes," says senior project coordinator Jeff Harrison, S.J. "First, we want to

the bottom of the hill to a large creek with about a seven-foot drop-off. We just thought she would bail out before she got to the creek. That's what we did," said Venker.

The girl, however, didn't stop and went careening into the iced-over creek. She hit her back on the rocks on the opposite side of the creek, and broke through the layer of ice—about one to two inches thick—sliding into frigid water one foot deep. She broke her back in three places.

"Luke and Jim tried to grab her (as she passed), but they didn't have enough time," said Finnegan.

The girl was at GreenBriar with two

welcome the seniors back. Second, we want to hear what they did during their projects, and third, we want to praise God for the love and grace that allowed us to do Senior Project."

The service will begin with an opening prayer by Jesuit Superior Tom Cummings, S.J., followed by a Gospel Proclamation and a homily by Harrison. Then, several seniors will give short reflections on their experiences during their projects before a short video of the various project sites.

So far, only praise has accompanied the seniors' return to school.

"I've had sites calling and asking if (the seniors) could miss school today or tomorrow," said Harrison. "The feedback has been very positive."

As for the seniors' acclimating themselves to school, senior John Randall quietly reflected after seventh period yesterday, "I'm really, really tired."

friends, one male and one female, but they were not on the sled at the time of the accident.

Finnegan, Schlafly, Venker, and Krings all combined efforts, pulling the girl from the water and onto a bank on the side of the creek. The four were afraid she might have broken her back and decided not to move her further than necessary. A friend of the SLUH juniors from St. Joseph's Academy then called 911 on her cell phone and directed the emergency personnel to their position.

The girl appeared quite shaken from the impact. "Her face went blank for a while," said Finnegan. "(We had to) calm her down because she was freaked out."

see SLEDDING, 8

Snow postpones junior retreat

Greg Fox
Core Staff

Old Man Winter reared his frosty head again on Sunday and dumped a wintry mix across the St. Louis metropolitan area, causing many schools, St. Louis U. High included, to close.

As Principal Mary Schenkenberg explained, she cancelled school on Monday due to "a combination of the ice and the cold. I tend to have many more concerns about students driving to school in ice and cold than I do about snow."

"As the weather unfolded, it appeared that it was really going to be icy, and there would be no break in the cold," Schenkenberg continued. "They were also

see FROSTY, 9

Sophomore Szewczyk reports for Radio Disney

**Brian Krebs
Core Staff**

In the future, when you get the chance, turn on your radio, switch to the AM band, and tune over to Radio Disney 1260. If you listen for long enough, you are bound to come across the voice of St. Louis U. High sophomore Eddie Szewczyk.

Four years ago, when Szewczyk was in seventh grade at Blessed Sacrament School in Belleville, Ill., he learned of an open audition being held at Northwest Plaza for a Radio Disney reporter. The audition, which consisted of Szewczyk's simply saying his name and reading a report, was taped and played before a panel of judges. Two weeks later, Szewczyk was called and informed that he had the job.

As a reporter, Szewczyk's job includes being given tickets and going to certain events, such as movie sneak peeks or sporting events. Then, Szewczyk writes a report of approximately eighty-five seconds summarizing his experience. Finally, he records the report to be broadcast on the radio.

The majority of his reports are on movie sneak peeks, which he does about two weeks before the movie is released. The movies, however, are not made only by Disney. Szewczyk explains, "They're generally Disney, but I got to see the *Lord of the Rings* and *Harry Potter*." Szewczyk estimates that he does about five to six reports per month.

Szewczyk had a tough time interviewing Buzz Lightyear of Disney's *Toy Story*. Szewczyk explained the difficulty: "I had to come up with questions that he could answer with 'To infinity and beyond.'"

Szewczyk is also a member of the Radio Disney Street Team, which travels around St. Louis, sets up tables at events to oversee raffles and games, and gives away Disney promotions such as DVDs, hats, candy, and shirts. The group consists of about four members Szewczyk's age and about six adults in their early twenties.

Szewczyk's seventeen-year-old sister Maggie is also a member of the Street Team. She auditioned for the part a couple of years after her brother. At this point, Maggie has not yet done reports, but may in the future.

And what about the perks? Bi-annually, Szewczyk gets two free tickets to Disney World, which he uses about every other year to treat his whole family of five. Szewczyk does receive a regular salary, but his mother manages the financial aspect of his job, as required by law.

In terms of the future of his career, Szewczyk would like to be a reporter, but not necessarily for radio. He is interested in being an interviewer for both TV and radio, "kind of like Bob Costas," according to Szewczyk. He interviewed his idol Costas a couple of years ago at McKendree College in Lebanon, Ill.

Additionally, Szewczyk has had chances to interview an array of other interesting people. In 2000, he interviewed Al Gore at a local grade school. Yesterday, Szewczyk was absent from school for the entire morning due to a Radio Disney interview with LaLaine, who plays Miranda Sanchez in the Disney Channel's *The Lizzie McGuire Show*. Said Szewczyk, "LaLaine was very down to earth and easy to talk to."

However, Szewczyk isn't just in the radio biz. He also can add multiple Muny

plays, TV commercials, and even a few movies to his already impressive resumé.

Szewczyk has been in the Muny since 1998. He has been in a variety of plays, but his biggest role to date was playing John Darling in 2002's *Peter Pan*.

Szewczyk first hit the small screen in *A Will of Their Own*, an NBC mini-series see ALL EARS, 10

Juniors Ullmann, Florek perform in all-state orchestra

**Brian Odem
Reporter**

Juniors Paul Florek and Charles Ullmann finished their arduous preparations for the all-state orchestra with a performance with the orchestra at Tan-Tar-A near Lake of the Ozarks last Saturday.

Florek and Ullmann's preparation for this performance started in December in the all-state band auditions in Columbia, Mo. Performing well at these auditions, Florek earned the first chair trumpet, and Ullmann also earned first chair tuba in the all-state orchestra.

Last Wednesday, Florek and Ullmann made the trip down to Columbia to play with the 125 of the best high school band players in Missouri. Prior to the concert, the all-state orchestra spent nine hours each day rehearsing the music for the concert either in full group sessions or in sectionals.

The fifty-minute concert was held at Tan-Tar-A on Saturday at noon and featured the selections "Capiccio Bohemian" by Rachmaninoff, "Out of Adullum" by Kurt Mosier, and the Finale of the 5th Symphony by Shostakovich.

"I keep telling everyone, 'I met some great people.' It was more than just a playing experience," said Ullmann.

Commenting on the two players' success, band director Bryan Mueller stated, "They've proven to themselves that they're worthy of being in the state ensemble."



Sophomore radio star Eddie Szewczyk.

PHOTO BY BRIAN KREBS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nappier refutes criticism of Amnesty bake sale

To the Editor:

Hello! My name is Paul Nappier. I am writing this letter having just gotten off of a day at Senior Project. Project has been great, and I've learned a lot: namely, that helping people is good. Allow me to clarify: I mean, I'm not trying to be *smug* or anything, it's just that it's a really nice thing to do, helping people, and people seem to really like it.

It has come to my attention, however, that there are those among us who do not like helping people. These individuals would argue that while poor people may be poor, they're not doing so badly, and even though most us are fairly wealthy in comparison, there is really nothing unfair about the poor people having less. I do not mean to single out Byrne Hobart, but after his letter in last week's *Prep News*, I suppose that's what needs to be done.

I am most angry about Hobart's claims about sweatshops, so I'll start there. First, he claims that "the amount of money (people working in sweatshops outside of America) get for working is something on the order of infinitely greater than the amount of money they would earn by failing to do so." Wow! Actually, there are employers in foreign countries other than American corporations, so probably these workers would not be jobless and thus infinity does not play a role in this issue. Certainly, the American corporations do pay higher wages, although nowhere near infinity.

I claim that this does not let these companies off the hook, however. These companies leave the United States and its stringent labor laws for countries with weaker laws. Our labor laws exist for a reason: to protect workers and ensure that they receive

a fair wage. Remember how child labor was banned in this country? Well, companies like Nike and Wal-Mart get around that pointless law by going to Laos or Thailand, where a new, cheap workforce is opened up to them. I'm sure they are only trying to help these people by generously giving them jobs, though.

I claim that what we have here is a human rights issue, and thus, despite the unfortunate fact that these foreign laborers are not American, they too are human. Consequently, they have human rights also! Hobart goes on to claim that this discussion is like comparing apples to caviar. This confused me, because it seemed to detract from his argument that exchange rates make American wages equivalent to sweatshop wages. I mean, if he is trying to make this comparison, why create this contrast? Of course, if the wages were so similar, then they would of course be capable of living a lifestyle similar to ours. I've never been to Cambodia, China, the Philippines, Nicaragua, or anywhere else, so I cannot say definitively that they are different. But Mr. Merriot will be back from Honduras by the time this letter is printed, so why don't you ask him?

I am also confused by Hobart's problem with the cost of the bagels. I think 25 cents or less is quite a reasonable cost. Much more reasonable than, say, the \$2000-a-plate fundraisers that perhaps some of us are familiar with. In his second paragraph, he attacks the concept of fundraising by sarcastically saying, "Give us money to feel good about yourself for giving us money...and you can say that it is a mark of your support for the dumpster-diving Trotskyite squad." Personally, I see nothing inherently

see NAPPIER, 10

Locastro reflects on bagel quality

To the Editor:

So let's say I'm having a bake sale.

Let's say I've found a nice bag of bagels outside of Einstein Bagels, in the same plastic bag they were left in last night. It's cold outside, so no bugs to worry about. They have a policy of not selling day-old bread, and I've eaten bagels from my breadbox that were three days old. No problem, right? So have a bagel, go on and enjoy one. Donations accepted, all for a good cause. Don't have any cash, that's alright, enjoy a bagel. Still soft, still tasty.

Now, look at the bagel in your hands and what do you see? Do you see a group of card-totin' communists trying to instigate some kind of subversive message? Are they trying to brainwash us by telling us free-things-for-everyone is a good idea!? Heavens to Betsy! Maybe they've injected those terrible democratic poisons into the dough. Now let me dissect this very bagel. Hmmmm...no cream cheese? Too poor or too socialistic to offer it, no doubt. Aha! A blemish! Inferior bagel quality. I have proven nothing!

Does anyone else see what I see in this bagel? I see the following: A bagel. Round, hole in the center. Delicious. Chewy. Tasty. Given to me by a friend of mine whose organization was offering free-domain bagels. I didn't have a quarter...so he offered it for free. What a nice gesture. A good and wholesome way to start my day!

Let's not look a gift horse in the mouth. If you look at the bake sale at your local church, do you see "a spackling of terribly crusty muffins and nasty carrot cake cupcakes. No doubt the mothers' club is showing us that their themes of service to the community cannot afford them enough money for a cooking class to teach them how to make scrumptious confections"? If that is what you see...maybe you are looking too deep.

A few words to our capitalist/conservative community: lighten up. We're all in it together, eh?

With song and dance,
Joe Locastro, '05

Displays mark King, Black History Month

Greg Fox
Core Staff

In an effort to increase cultural awareness at St. Louis U. High, various organizations have put up displays, many of which feature civil rights issues.

Undoubtedly America's most identifiable civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered his most influential work, the "I Have a Dream" speech, on August 23, 1963. More than just a speech, "it changed hearts and minds," said Fr. Jeff Harrison, S.J., who recently constructed an exhibit of King's life in the Robinson Library.

The exhibit focuses on many different facets of King's role in the civil rights struggle. It features large poster displays

of his arrest and subsequent incarceration, his various civil rights speeches, and a poster of King with fellow civil rights leader Malcolm X, all among some of King's quotes regarding the civil rights struggle.

Harrison stressed that King's message extends beyond the issue of race and has meaning for everyone, even students at a predominantly white school. "This is about all of us," said Harrison. "It's about black and white being free of something that's

really hurting everyone."

Though the "I Have a Dream" speech was the crowning achievement of King's career as a civil rights leader, there is much more to his life beyond the Civil Rights struggle and his famous speech. King made the speech in 1963 and was not assassinated until 1968.

"One of the main things he did towards the end of

his life was he took a very courageous stance against the Vietnam war," explained Harrison. "We tend to forget about that King." One of Harrison's goals was to show other facets of King's life beyond his famous speech.

In addition to his stance on Civil Rights and the Vietnam War, King was staunchly anti-violence, a message that is still pertinent today and which Harrison calls "critical."

Harrison put the display up over the weekend preceeding Martin Luther King Day. The King display replaced earlier displays about John F. Kennedy and Lewis and Clark.

The Association for Cultural Enrichment at SLUH (ACES) is also planning a display, though the ACES display will take place during Culture Week and Black History Month. The ACES display will be located in the front hallway, and will feature some of the figures in African-American history.

In addition to the display in the front hallway, ACES will showcase books pertinent to black history in the library. Finally, during announcements during Culture Week, there will be readings about African-American history.

teachers. (The change) has been fun."

Even though Bannister has only been teaching the juniors for little more than a week, he thinks the transition has been smooth. "The kids seem to be doing very well," he said. Bannister was happy to be back in the classroom after working as an administrator. "Its always nice to be back in the classroom interacting with the kids," he said.



This display can be found in the library.

Ferrigni gives birth to baby girl

Bannister, Hannick, Main substitute for classes

A. W. Sciuto
Core Staff

Rebecca Ferrigni gave birth to Vivian Grace Ferrigni this past Monday at 5 p.m. "Both mother and child are doing great," said math department chair Tom Becvar. Vivian is Tycho ('91) and Rebecca's second child after their first daughter, Emma.

Jan. 9th, the Friday before exams, was Ferrigni's last day before taking her maternity leave, which lasts until spring break. Consultant to the President Robert Bannister has taken her two junior advanced algebra II classes, while math teachers Craig Hannick and Tim Main, S.J. have each taken one of her sophomore geometry classes.

Many students know Bannister as SLUH's previous principal and Hannick as a math teacher and Coordinator of Admissions, but fewer students know Main. Last year Main, who minored in math, worked at SLUH as a student teacher helping the math department.

Becvar explained, "In order to teach (math), you have to be certified through one of the universities. They usually require that you spend one semester doing

some time student teaching. . . They have to actively teach with supervision from a teacher who is already at SLUH. . . It's something everyone (who teaches math) in the state has to do."

This year, Main, who is a Jesuit scholastic and lives at the Jesuit Bellarmine residence near SLU, does not teach any classes and supervises only one homeroom because of the classes he attends at St. Louis University to get his master's degree in history. One of Ferrigni's geometry classes happened to meet during the first period of the day. Because Main is already here in the mornings and had no scheduling conflicts, he was able to take the class.

According to Main, the two main benefits for teaching the class are "getting back into the math because all of (my) classes right now are in philosophy, theology, history" and "getting to work with you guys here."

Has the transition between teachers been easy? Junior Harold Carter said, "Mrs. Ferrigni and Dr. Bannister have different personalities and teaching styles. Dr. Bannister's more of a jokester; Ferrigni's a little more serious. . . It's been pretty cool because both are pretty good

Busiebills hold (Alth)off; fall to Zumwalt South

Bradley Naert
Reporter

The St. Louis U. High hockey team faced off against the Althoff Crusaders late Saturday night at Affton Ice Rink. The last time these two teams played, the Crusaders came away with a 6-4 victory, but this time the Jr. Bills won 7-3. In their other game this week, the Jr. Bills fell to Ft. Zumwalt South, 6-1.

Early in the first period of the Althoff game, freshman Dan Steck caught the Althoff goalie out of position and gave the Jr. Bills the lead. The Icebills kept the pressure on, allowing Althoff to get hardly any shots on net. Then, halfway through the period, sophomore Adam Fitzgerald struck with a quick shot past the Crusaders' netminder to put the Jr. Bills up 2-0 going into the second period.

The Busiebills kept their momentum from the first period well into the second period. Junior Tim Larkin sniped a shot in the top right corner of the net off a rebound, increasing the lead to three goals. Later, sophomore Eddie Effinger banged

the puck past Althoff's goalie to give the Jr. Bills a comfortable 4-0 lead.

Junior goaltender John Pecher did a good job of keeping the Crusaders off the scoreboard until late in the second period, when a short lapse allowed them to score two quick goals and make the score 4-2 going into the third.

The third period did not put an end to this defensive breakdown, as Althoff scored again only seconds into the period to narrow the Jr. Bills' lead to one goal.

But that was all the glory the Crusaders would experience for the rest of the night. Senior Matt Pijut scored on a shot from the high slot, followed by Larkin's second goal of the night, which put the Hockeybills up 6-3. Pecher made some outstanding saves, and junior Mike Tangaro scored to seal the 7-3 victory.

Coach Charlie Busenhart said, "I believe this team played one of their finest games (of) this year on Saturday."

Only two days later, the Bauerbills braved the snow and ice and headed out to Queeny Rink to play the Ft. Zumwalt South Bulldogs, the first place team in the

St. Charles division.

The Jr. Bills fell behind quickly. Only seconds into the period, the Bulldogs slipped the puck past Pecher. The team remained stymied as Ft. Zumwalt continued to control the game, leading 2-0 at the end of the first.

The second period was riddled with penalties as both teams became aggravated with each other. The Demitrabills still could not pull themselves together; allowing two more goals before junior Larry Howe finally gave the U. High some recognition on the scoreboard with a goal on a rebound from a shot by Steck.

With the score 4-1 going into the third, the SLUH hockey team had one last chance to try to turn the game around. However, too many penalties hurt this effort, and eventually gave the Bulldogs the opportunities to score two more goals. The game ended in a disappointing 6-1 loss.

The team plays its last regular season game on Saturday against Lindbergh at 9:15 p.m. at the South County Ice Rink.

Cagers defeat MCC rival CBC, 53-42

Victory snaps ten-game conference losing streak

Kyle Poelker
Reporter

Coming off a solid performance against their top-rated MCC rival Chaminade last Tuesday, the St. Louis U. High basketball team looked to turn their effort from a narrow loss to a narrow win last Friday as they squared off against archrival CBC at the Backer Memorial. Though they had lost to CBC earlier in the year, staying close even to the last seconds of that road contest, the Jr. Billikens looked to surprise and upset the Cadets for their first MCC win of the year.

Head coach John Ross added sophomore Tim Garvey to the starting lineup Friday and gave him the main ball handling responsibilities, allowing the Jr. Bills to come out with a quicker, smaller lineup to help match up against their rival Cadets. This lineup helped counteract the high-speed CBC offense; the game was

knotted at 13 apiece at the end of the first quarter.

It was the second quarter, though, that saw the Jr. Billikens blow the game wide open, as the Jr. Bills outscored their opponents by 10 with a balanced scoring attack from junior Dave Goettelmann and seniors Andy Lowes and John Kaminski.

But it was really the defense that helped to pin the Cadets down in the quarter. Key steals registered by Garvey and Goettelmann helped the Jr. Bills to get out on the break and add to their scoring attack. With a ten-point halftime lead, the Jr. Bills controlled the game and looked to get their first MCC win of the season and their first victory over CBC in two years.

But coming out at the half, the Cadets had the hot hand, not the Jr. Bills, and the CBC defense became stifling. A slow third-quarter start combined with relatively poor shooting helped CBC get back

into the game and make for an interesting fourth quarter, for the Jr. Bills had to protect their six-point lead.

Not only did they not allow a comeback, the Jr. Bills stymied CBC and added to their lead. Garvey hit two treys in the quarter, allowing the rest of the offense to maintain flow. Those two threes allowed senior Chris Luth and Kaminski some room to bang underneath, and they freed up senior Jeff Milles to get some open shots. The fourth quarter onslaught gave the Jr. Bills an 11-point win and their first MCC win of the season.

With their biggest success of the season now behind them, the Jr. Bills now look to outdo themselves. They travel to Jefferson City on Friday and then host district rival Gateway Tech on Tuesday. Both are big games that the Jr. Bills are looking to build on for a possible run for their district.

Racquetbills saddle the Parkway Central Colts

Phil Mathews
Reporter

Following a devastating one-point loss to DeSmet in the Hendren Invitational, the Racquetbills quickly rebounded, defeating Parkway Central 7-0. In a match in which the opposition suffered two forfeits, the Jr. Bills outscored Parkway Central 210-42. The Jr. Bills wasted no time at all in their lopsided rout of a weaker opponent and showed no signs of the inconsistent play demonstrated during the tournament from the prior Saturday.

The doubles team, comprised of juniors Pat Corcoran and Joe Lorenz, set the tone for the match by dismantling their inferior opponents 15-4, 15-2. Unfulfilled by their easy first-game win, the team refused to let up.

Commenting on their strategy in the second game, Corcoran said, "After I

mopped the court, they didn't score another point."

The duo's fired-up mentality of always playing as hard as possible frequently lifts the spirit of the whole team. With regard to their performance, Corcoran exclaimed, "Now we're really hitting stride and looking forward to state."

While victory was expected and somewhat trivial for the rest of the varsity team, it was a big step for fourth-seed senior John Reagan. Prior to this match, Reagan had been playing left-handed due to a broken right hand—his normal racquet hand. Although Reagan did an excellent job for the team playing left-handed, even defeating a couple of opponents, the Racquetbills were glad to see him back playing with his dominant hand.

Playing with drastically improved power and precision, and without the distraction of a clumsy brace, the ambidex-

trous phenom destroyed his Central opponent, 15-2, 15-3. Even on his first match back, he allowed fewer points than any other Jr. Bill. Reagan said of his right arm, "It's still a little sore, but I will be ready for state, guaranteed!"

With forfeitures at the fifth and sixth seed slots, the only remaining matches were those of the top three seeds: seniors Phil Mathews (first), Tom Carrow (second), and Eric Weber (third). These four-year veterans suffered little to no difficulty at all with their opponents, winning 15-3, 15-7; 15-5, 15-9; and 15-3, 15-4, respectively.

Long-time coach Joe Koestner summarized the match as a small step in the great deal of progress made towards being ready for state and nationals. Come see the Racquetbills against Parkway West next Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 3:30 p.m. at Vetta Sports Concord.

Singletbills place 6th in MICDS tournament

Harold Carter
Reporter

Having scorched Vianney and finished first in the Summit Tournament, the Jr. Bill wrestlers entered the dark halls of MICDS to compete in the 16-team MICDS tournament.

Coming into the second day in fifth place with junior Chris Cahill and seniors Jimmy Croghan and Greg Leibach all 2-0, the Grapplebills began the second round of consolation strong. Junior Ronnie Gentile (103 lbs.) destroyed his fearful opponent with eight near fall points in the first period and a pin by cradle in the second period with only 53 seconds left.

The Grapplebills continued their rage with a win by junior Andrew Poulin (112 lbs.) who tossed his opponent on his back like a rag doll in the first period. Sophomore Sam Cummings (130 lbs.) pinned his opponent in the second period after a rough first period. However, the Jr. Bills' hot streak was challenged in senior Mike

Smith's (145 lbs.) match. With a slow start, Smith recovered from nearly getting pinned and went up 9-6 on his opponent, and he finally drove his opponent to his back for a win by pin.

The Jr. Bills continued to assault their

tournament was not impressive enough, he later threw his opponent onto his back with 48 seconds left in the first period to win by pin. Senior Ryan Stevenson (171 lbs.) began the finals with a 4-2 win over his opponent and a third-place finish in the 171 weight class, and Leibach (189 lbs.) recovered from an 0-2 record on the second day and took fifth place in the 189 weight class. Coming into the finals undefeated, Croghan kept a clean slate and took first place with his signature throw, pinning his opponent with 47 seconds left in the first period.

With a first-place finish in the Summit Tournament, a broken nose, and a strained muscle in his chest from quarter finals, Smith fought through injury and defeated his opponent 9-8 to take 5th in the 145 lb. weight class. With his 5th-place finish, Smith will take the next one or two weeks off to recover and get ready for districts.

After a long two-day tournament, the Jr. Bills finished 6th out of 16 teams.

see **REVERSAL**, 7



Phil Clerc subdues his Spartan opponent Wednesday night.

opponents in the MICDS tournament with wins by junior Shaun Whalen (160 lbs.), who eked out a 4-3 win over his CBC opponent, and junior Phil Clerc (125 lbs.), who improved his two-day record to 2-1 by turning his opponent against his back five times and winning by tech fall.

If Croghan beating his opponent with a 12-second pin in the first day of the

Swimming Update

PN Nightbeat

The Swimbills narrowly defeated the Chaminade Red Devils yesterday, 94-92. Sophomore diving phenom Zach Berndsen qualified for state for the first time this year with a score of 223.75, his personal best. The meet was tied going into the final race, the 400-meter free relay, but the Krillbills won the event, securing the two-point victory.

—compiled by Nick Appelbaum

Swimming Stats

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| 200-meter medley relay | Wes Going, Gabe Toennies, Nathan Harris, Tim Heafner, 1:42.99. |
| 200-meter free | Kurt Doll, 1:49.48. |
| 200-meter medley | Gabe Toennies, 2:06.00. |
| 50-meter free | Tim Heafner, 0:22.14. |
| 100-meter butterfly | Nathan Harris, 0:54.64. |
| 100-meter free | Kurt Doll, 0:48.07. |
| 500-meter free | Adam Trafton, 5:02.29. |
| 200-meter free relay | Nick Konczak, Nathan Harris, Adam Trafton, Tim Heafner, 1:33.44. |
| 100-meter backstroke | Wes Going, 0:56.58. |
| 100-meter breaststroke | Gabe Toennies, 1:04.33. |
| 400-meter free relay | Tim Heafner, Nathan Harris, Matt Ampleman, Kurt Doll, 3:25.34. |
| Diving | Zach Berndsen 223.75 |

REVERSAL

(from 6)

Coming off a 6th-place finish in the MICDS Tournament and “a number of adjustments in the team’s weight classes,” according to head coach Tim Curdt, the Grapplebills took on DeSmet, “the toughest team in the Conference.”

With both teams coming into the dual meet undefeated in the MCC, the winner of the meet would become the leader in MCC going into districts.

With aspirations of being first in the MCC, the Jr. Bills, plagued with a number of losses, were forced to fight off an early deficit.

Leading the way was Leibach, who recovered from losing to his opponent by two in the first period by putting him on

his back. Time ran out while Leibach was attempting to pin the Spartan, but Leibach still won 8-5.

Stevenson closed the gap even more by using a single leg to take down his opponent and turn him on his back to win by pin with only 10 seconds left in the first period. Clerc, with an 11-3 win over his opponent, and Cummings, with an 11-6 win, contributed to the team’s recovery efforts. However, the Jr. Bills would fall short and lose to DeSmet 42-23.

With the loss to DeSmet, the Jr. Bills dropped only their second dual meet of the season as the regular season comes to a close. The district meet begins next Saturday, Feb. 7, at SLUH.

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St. Louis’ only
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All-Suburban Central Conference Water polo Selections

1st Team

*Tim Heafner (Junior)

2nd team

Colin Tyrrell (Senior)

Kevin Vincent (Senior)

Paul Guest (Senior, for shallow goal)

*unanimous selection

PREP NEWS VOLUME LXVIII**PLATFORM**

As the student-run newspaper of St. Louis University High School, the *Prep News* is a weekly publication which strives to inform the SLUH community about events and people, with its main focus on those pertaining to the school, primarily through the written word.

The *Prep News* is the voice of neither the administration nor the students. Rather, the newspaper serves to gather and disseminate information for the entire school.

The *Prep News* editors and staff members make every effort to be objective in their news coverage and editing, and they strive to be unbiased in their athletic reporting.

As it stands now, the organizational structure of the *Prep News* differs slightly from that of recent years. This year the *Prep News* has one editor in chief, one sports editor, one editor, an assistant editor, and a features editor. The members of the editorial staff are co-workers and share the duties of writing, copy-editing, layout, and staff management. The editors are supported by a core staff of regular reporters, who are frequently underclassmen.

Occasionally, the staff will also include such positions as layout staff, artist, photography editor, etc., as deemed necessary by the editors and moderator.

It is the role of the editors to seek out and facilitate the reporting of all significant news at SLUH. While any faculty member or student is welcome to submit

SLEDDING

(from 1)

Finnegan suggested that she may have been knocked unconscious for a short period of time, and Schlafly attributed a possible concussion to her slow reactions.

The group removed the girl's two outermost jackets because they were drenched and gave her their jackets to keep warm. Krings also went to a nearby friend's house to retrieve some blankets and jackets for more insulation.

Within a few minutes of the accident, the girl felt pain in her side and back but couldn't remember how she got it.

About five or ten minutes after call-

The Volume LXVIII *Prep News* editorial section serves as the vehicle of personal opinion, whether from students, faculty, or others wishing to voice an opinion. All topics discussed in the section will be related to St. Louis University High School.

Nothing published either as an editorial or as a letter to the editor should be considered the opinion of the school, the administration, or anyone other than its author or authors.

A *Prep News* editorial is the opinion of the editors on a particular topic. In their writing, the editors will make a strong attempt to express their views in a clear and accurate fashion; they will also strive to offer solutions if the focus of the editorial is a problem.

Either in response to something in the editorial section or simply in an effort to express one's opinion about a SLUH-related topic, every member of the SLUH community is welcomed and encouraged suggestions for potential articles, the *Prep News* is never obligated to publish any article idea; the editors reserve the right to deem any potential article un-newsworthy and retain it from publication for this reason.

Our primary emphasis as editors of the *Prep News* is upon accurate reporting, careful editing, and clear writing. But we do attempt to include some visual expression—photography, drawing, technical aids, or the like—in every issue. Despite our desire to make the paper visually appealing, we commit ourselves not to

ing 911, the first emergency dispatch arrived. Within a short time, more police, firefighters, and paramedics had shown up.

Paramedics placed the girl on a backboard, fearing neck and back trauma. They then slid her up a ladder from the bank of the creek up to the ledge. While trying to hoist her up the ledge, five firemen had to stand on the ice, but fell into the waist-deep water. Nevertheless, they successfully moved her to higher ground.

With the help of a neighbor's four-wheel-drive truck, the paramedics transported the girl to the nearest road, which

to submit a letter to the editors.

Every letter received by the editors will be read and given consideration. All letters must be signed, but the author's name may be withheld from publication by request.

The *Prep News* editors reserve the right to edit any submissions for publication in order to meet grammatical standards, but they will not skew the author's original intent. Also, the editors reserve the right to withhold from publication any submission if it is deemed vulgar, tasteless, or otherwise inappropriate.

All authors wishing to have letters published must submit them by 4:00 p.m. the Wednesday before the letter is to be published.

Letters can be given to any *Prep News* editor or moderator. In addition, letters can be mailed to the *Prep News* courtesy of St. Louis University High School, 4970 Oakland, St. Louis, Mo. 63110, or e-mailed to prepnews@sluh.org. allow form to supersede substance.

The *Prep News* strongly encourages underclassman involvement, and our office on the second floor of the Jesuit Wing, Room J220, is always open for involvement, criticism, praise, or suggestions. Without student reaction and feedback, the *Prep News* could not function.

If the *Prep News* is inaccurate, we will try to correct any significant error in the following issue.

This is the platform and policy of the editors of Volume LXVIII of the *Prep News*.

was 100-200 yards away, according to Schlafly. They then moved her to an ambulance, which took her to the hospital. According to the girl's father, she is doing well and is now walking.

"She was lucky that we were there. She would have been in trouble otherwise, but it's not like we did anything extraordinary. I mean I don't think we were 'heroes.' We just did what anyone would do," said Venker.

Agreeing with Venker, Finnegan, Schlafly, and Krings all stated that the girl's friends would have had trouble pulling her out of the water if they were alone.

Fourteen Jr. Bills fly to D.C. for March For Life

Matt Angeli
Reporter

Last Thursday, five seniors, one junior, three sophomores, and five freshmen, accompanied by Pastoral director Tim Chik and Kevin Dyer, S.J., attended the March For Life in Washington, D.C. At 1:30 p.m., bundled up with hats and gloves and with no classwork, the pro-life group walked along with an estimated 75,000 people from all over the United States to the Supreme Court to peacefully protest the decision of *Roe v. Wade*.

While standing in front of the Supreme Court, the Jr. Bills were interviewed for a community radio station in Washington, D.C. Chik later said, "The interviewer fired solid questions at the Jr. Bills, but the Jr. Bills held their ground and responded in respectful tones and gave good answers."

After the rally, the pro-life group walked to the Republican National Committee and enjoyed soda, chips and sandwiches provided by co-chairman Ann Wagner, the mother of freshmen Ray

Wagner, who was on the trip.

Another event the group experienced was a private bus taking the entire pro-life group for a night tour of sites including the Washington Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, the White House, the Vietnam Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, and the famous Iwo Jima monument. After the sharp coldness that froze their faces, the group welcomed the heat of the bus.

Next on the list was a youth rally at the National Shrine. The pro-lifers slept at Gonzaga Prep High School, a walk and a metro ticket away. After arriving at Gonzaga, the group ate Domino's pizza and stayed up until 2:00 a.m. playing chess and cards. With no sleeping bags, the pro-life group improvised and used sofa cushions and carpeting to get a few hours' sleep.

Around 7:00 a.m., Chik led the group in prayer. The group left and walked in the icy weather to Union Station, where McDonald's served hot McGriddles and biscuits for breakfast. After breakfast, the group found some vacant tables to sit at

and discuss their opinions on the death penalty and their experience on the pro-life march. "We pretty much all agreed on abortion, but the death penalty is a much more complicated issue," said Chik.

The pro-life rally and bus ride were not the only hits of the trip. The group got to meet Missouri senator Kit Bond and take a tour of the Capitol with one of his aides. Luckily, the Senate was in session and the pro-life group got to watch Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA) complain about President George Bush.

Sophomore Tom Vordtriede said, "Overall the trip was a lot of fun and I hope to do this again." The 14 students made the trip in roughly 48 hours.

Chik said, "In years past, as many as 56 go, but due to a retreat, I was not able to get back until the Wednesday night before the rally, so we had to fly, which really minimized the size of the group."

This is the fourth year Chik has organized the trip; he commented, "It was an awesome experience, and I thought the boys were very spiritual about it and we had some very good discussions."

FROSTY

(from 1)
predicting a little bit more snow."

Schenkenberg made the decision to cancel school at around 7:00 p.m. after consulting with Assistant Principals Mark Michalski, Eric Clark, and Art Zinselmeyer. In addition to discussing the situation with the Assistant Principals, she spoke with Facilities Director Patrick Zarrick regarding the school grounds. Although Zarrick had assured Schenkenberg that the SLUH lots would be cleared, some of the crews assigned to do so were unable to make it to school.

Meteorologists predicted more snow over Monday night, prompting many schools to close for a second straight day. The crews who clear the roads, however, were ready for this snowstorm. Schenkenberg had been driving both nights and, unlike Sunday night, determined that the roads were "clear enough for students to drive," she said. "I felt certain the crews had it under control."

Although the third quarter is relatively short, this fact did not play into Schenkenberg's decision to leave school open on Tuesday. Schenkenberg asserted that her "preference is always to hold school if it's safe."

In addition to affecting classes, the winter weather also changed the situation of January's junior White House retreat. Originally scheduled for Monday, Jan. 26 to Wednesday, Jan. 28, the retreat was postponed by Pastoral director Tim Chik, and junior class moderators Mary Beckemeier and Tim O'Keefe until February. According to Chik, the decision was "plain and simple. School was cancelled, and we thought (the storm) was going to give us more bad weather in the afternoon."

Chik cited the fact that, even until Monday afternoon, weather forecasters were predicting more freezing rain and sleet. "We were afraid, with 54 students coming in to SLUH on a non-school day,

that there would be car accidents," Chik explained. Chik also said that he was concerned about the possibility of a bus accident on the way to the White House itself, which is, according to Chik, "Not perilous to get to, but not exactly across the street."

The 54 juniors who were going to attend the retreat will do so on Monday, Feb. 9 to Wednesday, Feb. 11.

PN Wrestling Nightbeat

The Centermatbills closed out their regular season last night by losing their last meet of the season at Pattonville, 38-22. Juniors Sean Whalen (160) and Mike Keeline (152) and seniors Jimmy Croghan (275) and Ryan Stevenson (171) highlighted the U. High side of the match with victories; Stevenson pinned his opponent. The Grapplebills finish the season with a 7-3 dual meet record and begin districts at St. Louis U. High Saturday, Feb. 7.

by Tim Huether

Calendar

Jan. 30 - Feb. 6

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

Schedule R
Senior Project Prayer Service
V BB @ Jefferson City @ 7:30pm
B BB @ Jefferson City @ 5:30pm
Brunch for Lunch

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

V HOC vs. Lindbergh @ South County @ 9:15pm
JV/C WR @ MCC Tournament @ SLUH

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Schedule R
IM Soph./Sr. Hot Shot
Latin Club Mtg.
College Visits:
University of Missouri-St. Louis @ AP
Sisyphus sale

SAC Mtg. @ 7pm
Pizza Sticks, Taco Sticks, and Pizza

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Schedule R
Soph Bonus Reading
Pro-Life Club Mtg.
IM Sr. Movie Trivia
V RAC vs. Pkwy West @ Concord @ 3:30pm
V BB vs. Gateway @ SLUH @ 6pm
B BB vs. Gateway @ SLUH @ 4:30pm
Fiestadas, Beef Stew, and Egg Noodles

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Schedule R
Founder's Day
Soph. Class Lit.
College Visits:

Rockhurst University @ AP
Fr. Eng. Tutorial
1818 Registration
IM Sr. Movie Trivia
Jr. Rep. Mtg.
V SW @ MCC Championships @ Chaminade through 2-6pm
Bosco Sticks, BBQ Wings, and Chicken Rings

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Schedule L
Emergency Drill (Random Time)
V BB @ St. Mary's @ 6pm
B BB @ St. Mary's @ 4:30pm
Cookies and Taco Salad

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

No Classes

NAPPIER

(from 3)
communistic about raising some cash for a good cause. Under the Hobart plan, however, there will be no more international awareness drives, no more delicious treats sold by those lovable Honduras Project boys during activity period, and no more Cashbah. It looks like those godless Marxists up on the third floor are going to have to raise tuition to cover for the lost cash flow.

Hobart seems to like to throw out big words like “connoisseurs of hypocrisy” and use flamboyant language such as “dumpster diving Trotskyite squad” to convince our uneducated masses here that he must know what he is talking about. Yet if one takes the time to read the letter, it seems that most of his claims have little fact to support them. Throughout his attack, he refers to us as “Democratic Socialists,” “Trotskyites,” and “Marxists.” He uses these terms interchangeably, missing the unignorable differences in these unique ideologies. Just one example: Marxists (strict followers of the teachings of Karl Marx) tend to believe in some sort of revolution that results in a dictatorship, while *Democratic* Socialists tend to adhere to the concepts of *Democracy*, but I suppose that's a somewhat insignificant

distinction. He implies that Amnesty International is a hypocritical organization; however, nowhere does he reveal exactly how this is true. He continues to attack Amnesty for being “operated almost exclusively by members of the Young Democratic Socialists.” Simply taking five minutes to skim over the Amnesty website will tell you that the organization has no political affiliation. The fact that at SLUH it is run mostly by members of YDS shows not a broad leftist conspiracy but rather a lack of concern for human rights on the part of certain SLUH factions. I challenge you, Byrne, to come to an Amnesty meeting (Thursdays during Activity Period, J124), rather than sitting in your ivory tower catechizing to your congregation. You *can* make a difference in the world; you just have to open your mind and your heart.

I am now left wondering exactly why he bothered to write his letter. Beyond a meager attempt to attack our character, the only point he arrives at is a trivial attack on our charity. Perhaps the best thing would have been for him to simply *not buy* the bagels. If you consider yourself above helping people, and too good to eat day-old food, that's okay. Next time, just ignore our endearing smugness (the

quick, easy route) or take the time to write a letter that uses fact to persuade, not empty words.

A man for others,
Paul Nappier, '04

ALL EARS

(from 2)
about the lives of different generations of women. Next, he got his largest role on the big screen as Aaron in *Dad's Day*, a St. Louis-made movie about a boy embarrassed by his dad's career as an Elvis impersonator. His most recent role was in *The Game of Their Lives*, a film about a soccer team, made this summer in St. Louis, in which he played a scorekeeper.

Szewczyk has also appeared in both a McDonald's and National Market TV commercial.

Szewczyk has had help getting all of these movies and commercials. He is a member of the talent agency Talent Plus, which has helped set up multiple auditions for commercials and movies.

“Overall, it's a rewarding experience,” said Szewczyk, reflecting on his job at Radio Disney. “This gives me a taste of a job I want to pursue.”