

**Opinion:** Donovan, '96, responds to Hayes's letter about Vision 2000 expansions, page 4

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# Prep News



*"If nothing else, value the truth"*

VOLUME LXVIII

ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2004

ISSUE 22

## Fitness center namesake Stephen Pettit dies

**Jonathan Kim**  
Editor

Former Fathers' Club president and namesake of the school's fitness center Stephen R. Pettit died on Wednesday of complications from a stem cell transfer operation. He was 50 years old.

Pettit had undergone the operation for treatment of multiple myeloma, which he was diagnosed with in October 2001.

Wednesday's operation was the second stem cell transplant Pettit had undergone. Although the first transplant in February 2002 was successful, Pettit's cancer had relapsed, leading him to try an operation using a donor's stem cells. Pettit died after a failed attempt to remove accumulated fluid caused by destroyed cancer

cells clogging up his kidneys.

Pettit was active in the St. Louis U. High community, serving as vice president of the Fathers' Club in 1997-1998 and as president in 1998-1999.

After his service as president, Pettit also served as an officer emeritus as long as his sons attended SLUH. Pettit worked tirelessly at Cashbah, the Father-Son Golf Tournament, and helped coordinate the Past Parents dinners, remaining involved almost until he went to the hospital. SLUH named the new fitness center after Pettit this past fall.

In addition to his work for SLUH, Pettit also devoted his time at Loyola Academy, helping coach the basketball team and serve on their Board of Trustees.

"(Pettit) was a man of integrity and

commitment. He was a man who loved all, a man who believed in the values of family life, in the welfare of his children, and the importance of institutions like SLUH, which was his other family," said President Paul Sheridan, S.J. "He was exuberant, fun to be with, basically wrapped his arms around children who were in great need through his charitable works that he lived day in and day out."

"He loved the boys here," continued Sheridan. "He believed in the special values of this school. He loved the spirit of this school. He loved the tone of family that we have. He loved the teachers, faculty, and staff."

"Even when he retired from (Anheuser-Busch), he volunteered for us

see PETTIT, 4

## STUCO holds third quarterly forum

**Brian Kane**  
Editor in Chief

Last Friday, Student Council hosted its quarterly forum meeting in the theater during activity period. STUCO announced upcoming plans to the audience.

The STUCO officers asked the homeroom representatives in attendance to promote upcoming dances. The sophomore class dance and Sno-Ball for juniors and seniors will both take place in the first weekend of March.

Then, they announced that in the senior class's poll on whether to have a DJ or band play at senior prom, the class chose a DJ by a narrow margin. Some 122 seniors voted for a DJ, and 105 voted for a band. The vote was the closest in years.

The officers also announced plans for a "Fun Day" to be held in April, in

addition to STUCO's annual Spring Fling. STUCO will use part of the Fun Day to host a pig roast. They had planned a pig roast for the CBC football game in October but were unable to have it.

Sports Commissioner Brian Heffernan said that he plans to run a full-scale washers contest on the Fun Day.

STUCO also took some time to inform students of the new bubble hockey table that they purchased for the rec room. The bubble hockey table is now available for use at no cost to students. "It was our late Christmas present to the school," said STUCO President John Block.

In addition, wristbands and headbands will be on sale in the STUCO office at the price of three dollars each, or two for five dollars.

After STUCO reminded the crowd to see GOOD FORM, 2

## Sweat shop presentation today

**Greg Fox**  
Core Staff

Shortly after homeroom today, St. Louis U. High will host a presentation by Jim Keady and Leslie Kretzu on social justice in Nike-affiliated sweatshops. Keady and Kretzu are co-founders and co-directors of Educating for Justice and have been forming relationships with Indonesian sweatshop workers in Tangerang, Indonesia. The presentation will center around how Catholics respond to the problem of social justice in sweatshops.

Originally, Nike was to have sent a packet defending the company, but SLUH never received the packet, according to

see NIKE, 2

## Mock Trial defeats Vianney

**Andrew Mueth**  
Reporter

Tuesday night, several St. Louis U. High students were busy defending a college fraternity in court. In their second case of the year, the unranked Lawyerbills beat the first-ranked Vianney mock trial team.

Led by SLUH father Ed Rolwes, the mock trial team defended the Sigma Lambda fraternity from a suit brought by imaginary student Sydney Jones. That "fraternity" only existed in a casebook, however, and the court actually consisted of several professional lawyers acting as judge and jurors. Jones was supposedly drinking at a party at the fraternity house, though underage. He jumped off of the third floor balcony, attempting to land in a pool. However, as he fell, he hit his leg

## GOOD FORM

(from 1)

promote selling tickets for the Cashbah travel raffle, senior Sam Weller suggested starting a campaign to promote ticket sales specifically among the senior class, as traditionally senior classes do not sell their quota of travel raffle tickets.

Religious Commissioner James Erler then introduced his idea for modifying the morning prayer system. He suggested that, on certain days, each pastoral representative lead his homeroom in prayer rather than have someone lead prayer over the public announcement system.

"I'm not knocking on the prayers, but they're too long," said senior Mark Lubus.

Students also expressed dislike for readings about the Lewis and Clark expedition over the public announcement system during homeroom.

Though attendance was low, Block said, "I thought it was fine. It's kind of what we expected."

Erler was concerned about the total lack of faculty attendance. STUCO Moderator Brock Kesterson and Assistant Principal for Academics Mark Michalski were the only faculty in attendance. "Where were all the teachers?" asked Erler afterwards. "I want to know where all the teachers are."

on the side of the pool. Jones was suing for the physical and emotional damages he suffered.

Junior Skip Young said that the trial "went well, and neither team knew who was going to win (before the decision was announced)." He said that neither team was really better than the other, but that Vianney's style was different. "They tried to memorize what they planned to say... but struggled with the memorization (of their statements)." SLUH, on the other hand, spoke using note cards or ad-libbed, a tactic that helped them to defeat Vianney.

This big win might send the team to sectionals, a seemingly distant possibility prior to their upset victory against the Golden Griffins. They must now wait until the new standings are posted and hope that they have enough cumulative points to advance them to the postseason.

## NIKE

(from 1)

Brian Christopher, S.J. Last week, theology teacher Rob Garavaglia met a personal friend of Nike chairman Phil Knight at a Jesuit Secondary Education Association conference. SLUH set up a situation with a Nike representative who would be willing to speak, and the plan called for either a debate or a panel discussion.

Keady and Kretzu were "approaching the issue from a faith standpoint," according to Christopher. SLUH found out on Wednesday that the Nike rep would not attend today's assembly, although they will come in a few weeks.

The goal of the assembly is to raise consciousness. "That's huge, because Nike, and the whole apparel industry, the reps don't want us to know the condition that the workers are in," said Christopher. "There is a darker reality.... Once we as consumers become aware that our choices—even by the clothes (that we wear)—are moral choices that have impacts on people on the other side of the world have consequences...then we can begin to change things."

Christopher summed up the idea of the assembly, saying "This assembly will be the starting point for a discussion."

## Chess team mates Clayton

**Kyle Kloster**  
Reporter

Four years ago, the St. Louis U. High chess team did not exist, let alone hold a winning record. However, thanks to the efforts of moderator Joan Bugnitz and captain Brian Nienhaus, the Pawnbills have grown into a winning team. Bugnitz resurrected the team after a three-year period of "chesslessness" that began in 1998, when interest and support for the team had vanished.

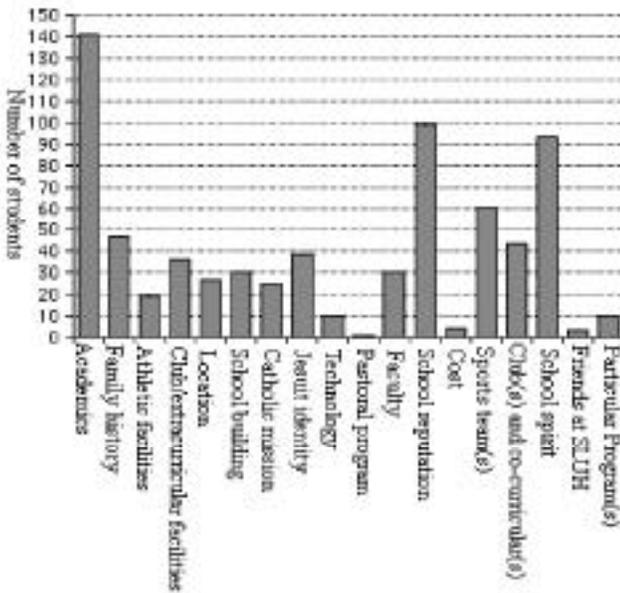
In 2001, after some students expressed interest in starting a team, Bugnitz decided to take up the responsibilities of moderator. As a fledgling team in the past three seasons, the Blitzkriegbills lacked strength, but their experience is surfacing. They have captured their first winning record since 1998. Under the leadership of Nienhaus, the team has achieved a 6-2 record thus far against the ten teams in their conference. Capturing their sixth victory Wednesday night in a 21.5-8.5 win over Clayton, the Kingbills have almost solidified their spot in the playoffs for the first time in years.

Matches occur on Wednesdays in the St. Ignatius Conference Room for SLUH's home meets, and they start as soon as the opposing team arrives. The best five players from each school pair up according to their team ranks and begin their games. Each player has a total of one hour to think over and execute his strategy, allowing games to last as long as two hours. No chants or cheers raise spirits during the matches, and often the clocks' rhythmic clicking stands out as the only noise in the room. No referee or judge presides over the matches; instead the players oversee everything themselves. Nienhaus explains, "The kids are from high school; they all know what they're doing. Usually there are no problems."

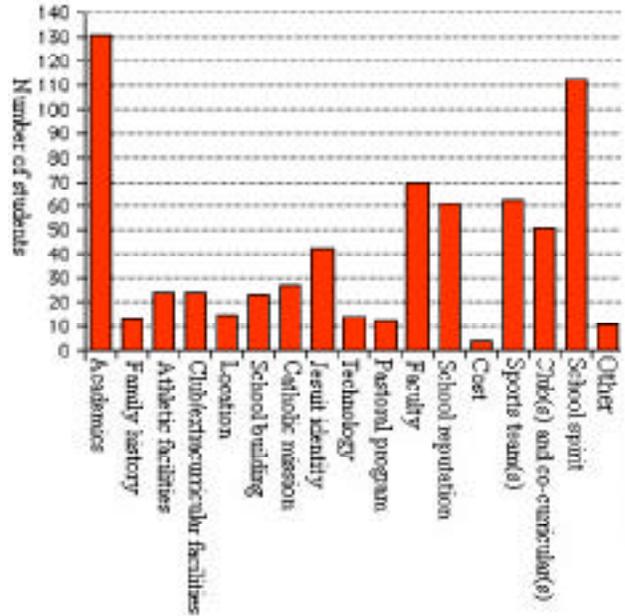
Chess season begins between mid-November and early December, and play-offs begin around the end of February. Practices are held every Tuesday in J227. Anyone interested in the team is welcome to come and join.

In light of the current expansion plans of Vision 2000, the Prep News conducted a survey of the student body regarding attitudes towards the school. 50 participants were picked at random in each class.

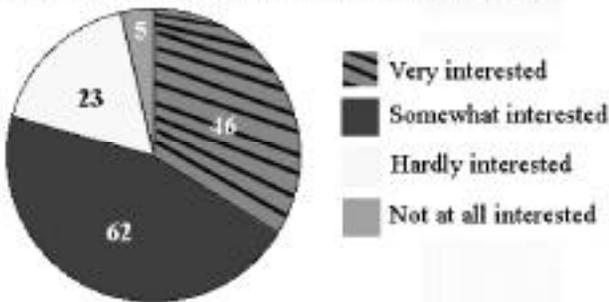
**Which of the following most influenced your decision to come to SLUH?**



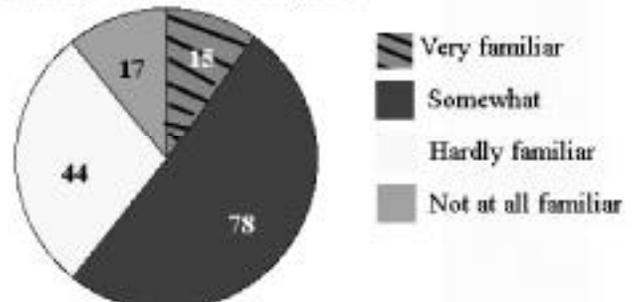
**Now that you're here, which of the following have made your experience most valuable?**



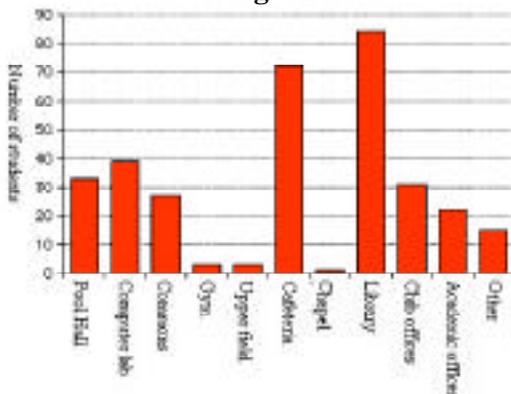
**How interested are SLUH students in Vision 2000 plans?**



**Familiarity with Vision 2000 plans**



**How do you spend your free / unscheduled time during school?**



**What time do you typically arrive at school?**

	6:00 - 6:30	6:30 - 7:00	7:00 - 7:30	7:30 - HR
Fr / Soph	1	8	56	27
Jr / Sr	3	4	31	24

**What time do you typically leave school, or what time do your co-curriculars end?**

	3:00 - 4:00	4:00 - 5:00	5:00 - after
Fr / Soph	33	33	28
Jr / Sr	33	11	23

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Donovan defends Vision 2000 expansion plans

To the Editor:

I would like to address the letter sent by my classmate, Michael Hayes. I understand and share his concern that SLUH should always be focused on her mission as a Jesuit institution. I hope that the question he raised is always taken into account by the faculty and administration when considering new ideas, projects, or the like for SLUH. I would argue, though, that teaching the students (and alumni) to be Men for Others is an important part, but a part nonetheless, of the mission of educating the whole person. Of course, the two major aspects of that education, I believe, are academics and spiritual/religious formation. The former was addressed with the last renovation and expansion of the school in 1996. The arts were given a major boost and the classrooms were made more conducive to learning. It seems to me that while the academic aspect has always been the emphasis of the school, it has been the object of particular concentration these last several years. Now the time has come (after almost a decade) and the resources made available to address another aspect of the education of the whole person: the physical, as it is manifested in athletics and recreation, an aspect that could not be addressed in the 1990s. How long will the basketball team have to miss a practice or settle for a "second-best" option or a Phys. Ed. class have to sit on the bleachers because the gym is being used for something else? Should the wrestling team always have to practice in the back of the theater? Granted, we did not have many creature comforts when we were students, but somehow I doubt we can honestly say we never complained or never thought a better situation could be had.

The sticking point for some seems to be the scope of the expansion. Is it excessive? Possibly. Although, as evidenced by our football stadium, all fields are essentially large and oversized compared to a building, which we forget has three or four stories, making for much more useable space. Also, with some creativity, the space to be vacated could be utilized to make the experience

of SLUH that much more unique. Yes, the \$16 million seems high, but it would not cover even two years of the school's operating costs or be able to effect a permanent raise in teachers' salaries, even though the teachers are worth every penny.

As someone quite often given over to nostalgia, I don't think we should bemoan the loss of part of a neighborhood that had many drug houses and fostered a level of crime that is not only unacceptable for our fellow man but is also most unacceptable for a high school. This expansion, if anything, is a reinvestment in the city and should be a sign to the neighbors that SLUH has no intention of being wooed to a swath of green by a handful of green like some other institutions.

We should not chastise SLUH for its desire to nurture the students' physical well-being in addition to their academic and spiritual well-being. We also should not chastise it for responding to the imperative given by the parents and future students who, for good or ill, consider facilities when they make their decision. As long as the selling point is not that we are the best in (insert sport here) because we have 'x' facility but that these facilities provide every student the chance to pursue a multitude of opportunities and become a well-rounded person. Learning teamwork, sportsmanship, and how to interact properly with others in an extra-curricular environment can help someone become a Man for Others.

Finally, with all due respect, I think that perhaps our pride in FoPoCoCo over Chaminade and MICDS was because we usually beat them and won the state title, not because it was a part of the city. And I would venture to say that the success of our water polo team depended not only on the skill of our players and wisdom of our coaches but also on the basically uninhibited access to the proper facilities. Perhaps it is time that other sports and even non-athletic students had the same.

Gregory T. Donovan, '96

## PETTIT

(from 1)

and for Loyola Academy, and that was his full-time job, doing volunteer work for us during his sickness," said Vice President of Advancement Thom Digman. "He acted as the honorary staff person of the Fathers' Club, so every meeting he was there. He helped organize all the events you guys get to enjoy. If there is anything that Steve probably taught us, it is how to live life well, because clearly he was battling for the last several years. But every single time you saw him, he had tremendous love of life, love of people around him, and he probably made everybody who came in contact with him better because of the way he approached his sick-

ness."

Fathers' Club President Fred Daues said, "Steve would send the Fathers' Club members e-mails and tell them how he was doing and what his plans were. I will never forget this: he always closed his letter with 'Life is good.' That was his outlook on life. He was a type of man that you were very happy to know and you wished you could know even better."

"On the behalf of my family, I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support," said his son, Tom Pettit, '97. "If it weren't for all of those, I know he wouldn't have made it as long as he did.... He wanted to live life everyday. That was his quote. that is what he tried to

live by, and that is what he did."

"You can't ask for anything more (from a community)," said Tom, "and you can't ask for a better place to support a family."

The wake will be held at the Bopp Chapel at 10610 Manchester Road this afternoon from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The funeral Mass will be at St. Francis Xavier College Church at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 21, and the burial will be at Holy Cross Cemetery on Manchester Road immediately following.

Pettit is survived by his wife Bev, his daughter Jenny, and his sons Tom, '97, and Mike, '02.

February 20, 2004

## Lancers end Puckbills' playoff run in sudden death

**Tom Fucoloro**  
Reporter

After an 8-1 loss in the first playoff game of the series, the St. Louis U. High hockey team matched up with the Lafayette Lancers for game two Friday night at Affton Ice Rink. The Jr. Bills scored three goals in the first period en route to a 4-2 win. This win forced a mini-game to decide the series, and after 12 minutes of a sudden death battle, Lafayette scored to end the SLUH hockey season.

When the 2003-2004 U. High Puckbills stepped on the ice Friday night, they looked unbeatable. Every pass caught the intended receiver in stride, and every defensive player executed precisely. The speed of the Jr. Bills overwhelmed the Lancers for the first period as the Puckbills scored three of their four goals.

To kick off the scoring, senior forward Matt Pijut deflected a shot from senior defenseman Mike Mudd into the upper corner of the net.

Of his goal, Pijut said, "I was getting roughed up in front of the net. I saw the shot and tried to get my stick on it and it went in."

The Puckbills followed Pijut's goal with two more, one from sophomore sensation Eddie Effinger and another from junior Mike Tangaro.

The second period consisted of intense back and forth control between the Lancers and the Jr. Bills as both teams fought to gain control of the game. Lafayette scored one goal in the first period and one in the second to bring the game to within one goal at the end of the second period.

In the third period, senior Dane Moody scored a goal, assisted by senior Brad Naert.

After Moody's goal, the first game ended with the Jr. Bills on top and surging with energy.

The mini-game lasted for 12 minutes of sudden death anxiety. Both teams played with speed and strict defense as they battled to continue their seasons. Senior

defenseman Kyle Butler skated for most of the mini-game, a grueling feat of endurance and strength, and helped keep the Lancers from scoring earlier than they did. However, in a skirmish in front of the net, the Lancers managed to put a shot over Pecher's shoulder after he had made back-to-back saves. With that goal, the Puckbills' season ended.

SLUH hockey had a rough year, as they seemed to lose game after game during the season. The team, especially the seniors, played hard against the odds during the playoffs, and managed to upset Rockwood Summit in the first round, coming within inches of a victory against Lafayette in the second round.

"The last four games of the playoffs were the best games of hockey I have ever seen," said senior Chris Baricevic, remembering the excitement of the past weeks.

Coach Charlie Busenhardt saw the season as "a reshaping of the team after the loss of goalie Charlie Effinger at the  
**see BLUENOTE, 8**

## Racquetbills defeated by Spartans, 4-3

**Tom Carrow**  
Reporter

Last Friday, Feb. 13, the St. Louis U. High Racquetbills faced off against DeSmet for the St. Louis league championship. It was a highly anticipated match, as SLUH entered 9-0, and DeSmet 8-1, their only loss a 5-2 defeat by the Jr. Bills. DeSmet, however managed to win this contest, 4-3.

The match started off with the doubles team of juniors Joe Lorenz and Pat Corcoran against DeSmet's Wolf and Billingsly. Corcoran and Lorenz were both on top of their games, and the DeSmet team could not handle their lethal left-right combo; Lorenz and Corcoran cruised to a 15-9, 15-7 victory.

While Corcoran and Lorenz were dominating their opponents, junior Ryan Franklin was locked in a close game with DeSmet's Kevin Bell. After a close first game, Franklin found himself down a game, and with Bell playing extremely

well in the second game, Franklin couldn't overcome the deficit, and DeSmet tied the team score at one.

The following match turned favorable for the Jr. Bills, as senior Eric Weber battled Matt Bell. After a shaky first game, Weber dominated his opponent and finished him off 15-3, 11-5 in the tiebreaker.

Senior John Reagan followed in similar fashion, winning 15-11, 15-10 in a game more dominant than the score suggests, putting SLUH up 3-1.

Then DeSmet went on a rally. Number one seed senior Phil Mathews faced off against the only opponent that had offered him any challenge all season, Eric Becker. After a narrow 14-15 defeat, Mathews won the second game 15-9. Everything went Becker's way in the third game though, and he proved too much for Mathews, winning 11-2. Second seed senior Tom Carrow followed suit, losing focus and losing in straight games.

With the team score tied 3-3, and fifth seed junior Eric Durban locked in a close

battle with his DeSmet foe, the match was up in the air. After a hard-fought match, Durban couldn't hold on, taking a 11-15, 12-15 loss, that put DeSmet up 4-3 for the final score. SLUH's only loss of the season—the first in nearly two and a half years—was a "reality check that luckily came before state," said coach Joseph Koestner.

Although the Racquetbills lost Friday, they still won the league championship, since their earlier 5-2 win over DeSmet made the overall team score for the two matches 8-6 in SLUH's favor. The team looks towards the state tournament this weekend with optimism as shown in third seed Eric Weber's analysis of the match. Weber stated that "the team was a little shaky (in the loss to DeSmet), but it's nothing I think we can't correct in time for state."

Be there Saturday at Concord in South County to cheer on the SLUH racquetball team in its quest for the state championship.

# Aquabills swim to second-place finish at state

**Nick Applebaum**  
Reporter

Last Friday, the St. Louis U. High swimming and diving state qualifiers headed to the St. Peters Rec-Plex to defend their state title. With shaved heads and the largest qualifying team (tied with Parkway South at 18 members strong), things looked good for the Krillbills. Although the Jr. Bills emerged as the top St. Louis team, they finished second overall with 215 points to Blue Springs' 258.

Friday saw the qualifying round for the swimmers, the top 16 of which would advance to the finals on Saturday. Each event would have a championship and a consolation heat each with eight swimmers. The Cousteaubills qualified 17 swimmers and relay teams in total for the finals, but only nine qualified for the championship heats (for the state meet scoring see chart, right).

On Saturday, the diving championships were held. Sophomore Zach Berndsen missed the top 16 by a few points and

Place	Points for Individuals	Points for Relays
1	20	40
2	17	34
3	16	32
4	15	30
5	14	28
6	13	26
7	12	24
8	11	22
9	9	18
10	7	14
11	6	12
12	5	10
13	4	8
14	3	6
15	2	4
16	1	2

scored no points for the team. After the diving, the swim meet started.

Frustration started in the first event. Favored SLUH lost the 200-yard medley relay to Rockhurst by .35 seconds. In the 200 free, senior Nick Konczak won the consolation heat, placing ninth overall, and fellow senior Kurt Doll placed eighth overall. Senior Gabe Toennies took fourth in the consolation heat of the 200 individual medley and placed twelfth overall.

In the 50 free, the Jr. Bills missed an opportunity to pull away from the rest of the pack. Both senior Nathan Harris and junior Tim Heafner were seeded in the top eight. Harris took fifth place, missing fourth by .07 seconds, while Heafner placed second, falling short of first by .63 seconds.

Following a 20-minute break, the Octobills trailed Blue Springs by only nine points. Harris and Heafner were at it again, this time swimming the 100 butterfly and taking seventh and eighth, respectively. In the 100 free, Doll and Konczak  
**see BABY BELUGA, 7**

# Rossbills drop three, prepare for DeSmet

**Kyle Poelker**  
Reporter

The Jr. Bills entered their own senior night as underdogs on their own court. Against Vianney, a top 15 team in St. Louis, the Basketbills were thought to be outmanned and to have no chance against the high-powered offense that stood in their way.

After the senior night ceremony that congratulated and thanked senior players Mark Lubus, Chris Luth, Jeff Milles, Jeff Howenstein, Andy Lowes, John Kaminski and senior managers Tim Wahl and Tim Simon for their service to the SLUH basketball program, it was game time. The Jr. Bills didn't want to disappoint. They came out roaring, taking an early 7-6 lead on a three ball from junior Dave Goettelmann. But soon, the Griffins answered back, hitting some shots of their own, and despite a Lowes trey to end the quarter, the Jr. Bills were still behind by four.

Goettelmann came out of the break on fire, and with five quick points the Jr.

Bills were back on top. But the battle had only begun as Vianney continued to claw their way back on top, and with two minutes until the halftime break, their lead was three. The Griffins increased it to four at the midway point in the game, with the Jr. Bills down but not out at 31-27.

But the third quarter was all Jr. Bills, and it seemed as if there would be no stopping them. It all started on the defensive end with big men Luth and Kaminski, who strung together four consecutive blocks that kept the Jr. Bills close. Kaminski finished with five on the night, which led to a momentum-shifting trey by sophomore sensation Tim Garvey.

With the Jr. Bills leading at the end of the quarter, it seemed as though they had the upper hand. But considering how fickle a game it can be, it wasn't the Jr. Bills who had the upper hand at the end of the game. Despite an excellent third quarter, there was a letdown in the fourth, one that Vianney was able to take advantage of. With SLUH not scoring, and the Golden Griffins doing so, the game was nearing the end. With no shot clock and the Griffins up,

the Jr. Bills were forced to foul, and the game was all but over. Despite the final score, a 58-46 Vianney win, it was a great competitive MCC game for the J-Bills.

The Jr. Bills then looked ahead to their rescheduled matchup at St. Mary's on Presidents' Day to get some anger and frustration out. But, unfortunately, it seemed as if the opposite was happening to the Jr. Bills. They started the game off extremely cold, trailing in the first quarter 15-4 against the smaller St. Mary's team. And despite a second-quarter effort where they pulled within one point of St. Mary's, riding the wagon of hot-shooting Kaminski and Howenstein, they still trailed.

The third quarter didn't do them any justice, only increasing their deficit. By the fourth there was no hope, and despite Kaminski's 14-point effort, the game ended with a 49-45 loss.

But there was still optimism around the Jr. Bills' locker room as they got ready to face the highest-ranked of all their MCC foes on Tuesday, the Chaminade Red Devils, who had recently lost to a

**see RINGERS, 8**

# Wrestlebills send four to state tourney

**Marty Wilhelm**  
Reporter

Last Saturday, the Grapplingbills wrestled in the Class 3 sectional championships. Winners would move on to the state championships in Columbia this Saturday. The Jr. Bills sent four wrestlers through to state: junior Andrew Poulin and seniors Mike Smith, Greg Leibach, and Jim Croghan.

Eleven St. Louis U. High wrestlers had advanced from the district tournament, but the Jr. Bills were down to ten before sectionals even started: sadly, sophomore Jon Holden's season was cut short by a skin condition which made him ineligible for sectionals.

The first round was a series of ups and downs for the team. Junior Shaun Whalen (160 lbs.) and Stevenson (171 lbs.) pinned their opponents quickly to advance to the next round. Poulin (119 lbs.) wrestled hard but lost to his Hazelwood West opponent. Leibach (189 lbs.) controlled his opponent from DeSmet the entire match to emerge with a major victory. The round ended with Croghan (275 lbs.) throwing his Pattonville adversary for a pin in the first period.

The second round turned out to be a little better for the wrestlers. For all the wrestlers that lost their first match, this round determined their termination or continuation in the tournament. Junior Jeremy Bledsoe (112 lbs.) came up big with a 16-0 victory over his Chaminade opponent.

## BABY BELUGA

(from 6)

placed third and 14th, respectively.

Junior Adam Trafton had a disappointing 500 freestyle, placing 16th and swimming well above his normal time.

Going into the 200 free relay, the Baldbills were well behind Blue Springs and needed to cash in. Unfortunately, they dropped the relay to Blue Springs, falling further behind. The Jr. Bills failed to qualify anyone for the championship heat of the 100 backstroke, but sophomore Wes Going and junior Tim Szewczyk took ninth and 12th place, respectively.

Poulin was paired up with a wrestler from CBC and let him have it. He was winning 10-0 when he pinned his opponent in the third period. After a tough loss in the first round, Smith (145 lbs.) showed determination to qualify for state, wrestling aggressively and, despite an injured shoulder, advancing to the next round.



Greg Leibach forces his opponent to submit.

Facing elimination, junior Marty Wilhelm (160 lbs.) secured a 6-0 lead, then pinned his Gateway opponent. Sadly, all the wrestlers in the semifinals were defeated, returning them to the wrestle-backs.

It all came down to the third round for the SLUH wrestlers. A victory there would secure them a spot in the championship tournament, while a loss would end their season.

Poulin had to wrestle an opponent from Ritenour that he had lost to a week before at districts, 10-3. However, Poulin got the first takedown and rode his opponent the entire match, earning a 6-0 upset victory.

Blue Springs finished eighth, making the meet impossible to win for the U. High, but the fight for second raged. Toennies placed 13th overall in the 100 breaststroke, and to finish the meet off, the Nemobills placed fourth in the 400 free relay. The top five team scores were: Blue Springs 258, SLUH 215, Parkway South 193, Chaminade 183, and Rockhurst 169.

Although this year's second-place finish was disappointing compared to last year's championship, the Jr. Bills have a lot to celebrate. At the start of the year, the team set a goal to place in the top three at

Smith was given his last chance to qualify for the state tournament. He got through a tough match and came out on top.

Recovering from his second-round loss, Stevenson hoped to defeat his Ritenour opponent to qualify for his first state tournament, but complications arose when his knee was injured. He finished out the match, but was unable to secure a win against his opponent. Disappointed with the end of his high school career, Stevenson plans to have surgery on his knee and start wrestling again to prepare for college.

Leibach was up next and faced off against a Chaminade wrestler. Despite the high stakes, Leibach stayed cool the entire match and came out with a strong victory.

Next, Croghan went out on the mat and wrestled one of the top-ranked wrestlers in the state. He wore out his adversary with constant motion, throwing him to his back for the pin in the second round. Later that night, Croghan manhandled his Hazelwood West opponent to take third place in the tournament.

Poulin, Smith, Leibach, and Croghan left on Wednesday to compete in Columbia yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Overall, the team performed quite well in a year that was supposed to be a transition.

With a 7-3 dual mat record, and two tournament victories under their belt, the team will travel down to Columbia to watch the qualifiers wrestle, and then the training for next season begins.

the state meet, a goal they achieved. They were the only team other than Blue Springs to score 200 points in the meet, an impressive stat for any team.

Said assistant coach and history teacher extraordinaire Tim O'Neil, "It was a bit of a surprise, but you can never call it a bad day when you finish second in state, and we were, after all, the best in St. Louis. I think we will be very successful next year, even though we are losing a lot of great swimmers. Don't count us out for next year."

# Science Club hikes Rock Pile Mountain

Alex Sciuto  
Core Staff

Last Saturday, an expedition of freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, led by moderator Steve Kuensting, set off to Rock Pile Mountain Wilderness Area for two days of outdoor wilderness fun with the Science Club.

Who would want to walk over rolling hills for three and a half miles in the dark with a 30-pound pack on your back? Juniors Luke Dang, Dustin Sump, Tyler Faust, and Alex Sciuto, sophomore Jim Scariot and freshmen Nathan Banet, Nathan Roth, Joel Schmidt, and Joe Kuensting did just that. The group set out in the two St. Louis U. High vans and traveled for two hours to the Rock Pile Wilderness Area near Fredericktown, Mo. They arrived around 8:30 p.m. and set out for the three and a half mile night hike 30 minutes later led by head lamps and powerful flashlights. The weather was cold, but once the group

started hiking, the cool wind proved a welcome relief. Because Rock Pile is rather hilly, most of the hike consisted of climbing up or down hills. Thousands of stars shone down from the sky, unobstructed by clouds.

At 11:00 p.m. the group stumbled down the last hill and arrived at their camp site next to the Cave Branch creek that feeds into the St. Francis River. Some of the students were so tired that they went to bed without dinner; Sump opted to eat his Ramen Noodles without cooking them.

Most students woke up by nine o'clock the next morning and by noon the group prepared to hike out on the day's main hike. The three mile hike took the group to the area's two most interesting natural features.

For the first mile, the hikers followed the large creek seeking out and easily finding the shut-ins. At some points, the creek flowed down in cascading sheets along the smooth rocks and came crash-

ing down other igneous chylolite rocks, turning from transparent blue into frothy white bubbles. A five-foot waterfall crashed into a four-foot-deep blue pool. The scene was so beautiful one student said, "God, I wish I had a camera, or maybe swimming trunks."

After the first mile, the group left the watery fun of the creek and hiked up and down hills to find the legendary hoodoo rock formations. According to Kuensting, certain parts of the limestone rocks were stronger than other parts. When the weaker parts eroded, columns 15 to 20 feet tall were left. The group also saw a living armadillo on the trip.

The next day the group woke up, cleaned up the camp, and hiked out. The blue and white vans arrived back at SLUH at 2:00 p.m.

Kuensting plans to take a group of hikers fifteen hundred miles west to the Grand Canyon in a few weeks over spring break.

## RINGERS

(from 8)

Gateway Tech squad that the Jr. Bills had dominated. The confidence was apparent as the Jr. Bills walked on the court at the Athletictron at Chaminade, and they had the game to back it up. A Goettelmann three put the Jr. Bills up by one midway through the first, and they continued to shoot the ball well despite a 15-11 first quarter deficit.

Then, as the Red Devils missed a fast break dunk and two subsequent layups, perhaps because of their lack of fundamentals and two of their players' concerns for how their headbands looked, the Jr. Bills came down to tie the score once again. Down 28-24 at halftime, their prospects were good. But the third quarter wasn't kind to the Jr. Bills.

Though they had taken some control, midway through the quarter Howenstein was whistled for a technical foul for throwing the ball at a Chaminade player's chest. It was a call that changed the game. "It was a weak technical," said Howenstein, adding, "It really changed the way the game went." Because Chaminade hit one free throw and then scored five points on

their next two possessions, they had a six-point lead until Garvey halved the lead with a three of his own.

Goettelmann, who hadn't shot the ball particularly well on this night, gave the Jr. Bills a one-point lead with a three. But SLUH wouldn't score for the next couple of minutes, and Chaminade would. By the time it was all said and done, despite the excellent effort of the Jr. Bills, they couldn't get the job done that night, losing 54-48. "We felt like we played a great game," said junior Curtis Hoette, "but things just didn't go our way at the end."

With three losses on the week and a 12-13 record on the season, the Jr. Bills look forward to their Friday matchup with DeSmet on the road, a game that Hoette says the team is "confident that they can win." They also look to their district play, a district that they haven't won since 1993. A win on Friday would give the Jr. Bills necessary momentum to get out of their district and advance towards sectional play, a district title that head coach John Ross has been looking for since the beginning of his SLUH career. "We have

a great chance now in our district considering our draw, especially on our home court," said Hoette.

District play gets kicked off Wednesday at SLUH for the Jr. Bills, with the opponent to be determined. Come out and support the Basketbills; there could be something special in the making.

## BLUENOTE

(from 5)

start of the season. As the season went on, the players' confidence in the goalies increased. The coaches are pleased with the team's progress as a whole."

Remembering his hockey career at SLUH, Moody said, "The two years of varsity hockey were two of the best years of my life, and it was only made better by the fan support."

Of his senior hockey season, Pijut said, "We had a frustrating year, but the playoffs were exciting with the upset against Rockwood. I wish the seniors the best of luck wherever they go."

# SENIOR PROJECT REFLECTION

## Crisscross Applesauce: St. Mark's Catholic School

**Brian Fallon**  
Assistant Editor

After my first day at St. Mark's Catholic School in South County I wrote in my reflection journal, "Well, I'm a gym teacher. Great." The words showed the doubt I was having, the doubt that I talked with my advisor about. I had chosen to go to St. Mark's because I remembered my time at my grade school, Holy Infant, and how it was difficult sometimes; dealing with growing up and bullies was something I could connect with. But the kids at my project were regular grade school kids, which made me feel as though my purpose for being there was not as significant when compared to other projects.

St. Mark's was halfway through its first year as a parish after the merging of St. Timothy's, Most Precious Blood, and Mary Queen of the Universe. I realized how difficult it must have been for everyone to make the adjustment, especially the students. I had moved from my old parish in second grade, and I remember how hard it was to become accepted, and how I tried so hard at first to make new friends.

The whole purpose of the project was to interact with people. I got to meet close to 325 students, their teachers, the principal, the maintenance man, the pastor, the secretaries, and the lunch ladies. The kids called me Mr. Brian as a sign of respect, but I was also known as carrot top, Marshall Faulk, Fr.

Fallon, and Brian. It was hard to find my role as a part of the school, but I did my best to help as much as I could.

On the first day of project, I was full of energy and ready to make a difference in the students' lives. I met Mrs. Lardner, whom I would be helping over the next three weeks. The school didn't have a gym, and three times a day she had to move all of the tables and chairs in the cafeteria so she could have class. I grew to despise the blue chairs, stacking them in fours and pushing them up against the wall or under the tables.

Jumping rope was not one of the ways I saw myself giving back to the community. I had heard my friends talk of the warm and happy experiences they got from their projects, and had read the same comments from the quotes from other seniors. But I was teaching a bunch of normal suburban grade school kids how to jump rope. I enjoyed it, but it didn't seem like I was contributing to anything important like learning how to count. Instead I helped them learn the single side swing and jump.

The upper classes were a little harder to get to know, since they did all the questioning. I was interrogated about where I went to school, what car I drove, how long I was going to be there, if I had a girlfriend, if I was married or not, what sports I played, where I was going to college, why I didn't like "Chingy," and what was for lunch. It was overwhelming, and the students weren't infatuated with me just because I was older, like the primary students were. I was alarmed when seventh grade girls broke into the Sunday coffee supplies and started eating the sugar. I quickly had to draw the line between being an accomplice and an authority, but I couldn't. I wanted all the kids to like me, but I wanted to make them listen. It reminded me of my own grade school when I was the kid who was so lost, trying to fit in with everyone.

I guess part of me felt disappointed that I hadn't experienced a metanoia during the first week of project, especially because everyone in my senior project discussion group was working with the mentally or physically handicapped. They knew about their kids. There were specific chores or lessons they were supposed to teach. I jumped rope. What was I supposed to be doing? How was I doing anything worthwhile besides being a friend to students? I really felt lost as I drove home from SLUH that Monday night. I felt cheated. I wanted to feel like I had accomplished something. I wanted to feel like the seniors of years past that I had admired for their courage and dedication to their

projects. I knew that I had to do something to make my project worthwhile.

I decided that I needed more enthusiasm, and I needed to keep busy as much as I could. I wanted to remember St. Mark's as a place where I grew a little bit more, and I wanted the students and teachers to remember who I was, and what little impact I made on their lives. I searched for things to do. I passed out lunches at all of the lunch periods. I sat with different kids, and actually asked them about school, and what they thought about their new school. Most kids had adjusted, but I saw how some kids were still treated unfairly.

One sixth grader named Greg was called fat by one of his classmates while we were studying nutrition facts. Part of me was shocked that everybody laughed, but then I understood how it was. Making fun of people was a way kids could get up in the social status of their class, and some used it to the highest extent.

see FALLON, 10



DRAWING BY TONY CATTARDO

by Tim Huether

**Calendar**

Feb. 20 - Feb. 27

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

Schedule M  
 All-School Assembly  
 V WR @ State Championships @ Hearnes Center through 2-21  
 V BB @ DeSmet @ 7pm  
 B BB @ DeSmet @ 5:30pm  
 Moms' Cookie Sale  
 Half Pizzas

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

V BB @ District Tourn. @ SLUH through 2-28

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

Latin Club Party 5-8pm

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

Schedule R  
 IM Freshman BB vs. Faculty All Stars  
 College Visits:  
     Creighton Univerity @ AP  
     Truman State University @ AP  
 NHS Meeting  
 Pretzels and Club Wraps

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

Schedule L  
 Toasted Ravioli and Baked Ravioli

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

Schedule M  
 Ash Wednesday Lit.  
 Formal Attire

Fish and Chips, Cheese Ravioli, and Meatless Spaghetti

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

Schedule R  
 STUCO Blood Drive  
 Fr. Eng. Tutorial  
 Bosco Sticks and Shepherd's Pie

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

Schedule R  
 Wellness Club Mtg.  
 TAP Presentation / Grade School Visits  
 IM Sophomore BB vs. Faculty All Stars  
 Cheese Garlic Bread and Papa John's  
 Cheese Pizza

**FALLON**

(from 9)

And although Greg shrugged it off, I could see he was really hurt that he was the target of a joke. I told the girl who called him fat to stop.

Greg would scream while we were on the blacktop, just because. He did it for attention because he was suffocating from all the pressures of being twelve, such as growing up, school, and being popular. I wanted the same things during my project that Greg seemed to want from school: to be valued, to feel good about who I was, and to have hope that I wasn't going to fail in life.

The next day while I was monitoring the sixth grade indoor recess, Greg came up to me and asked what he should do about someone leaking the fact that he had a crush on Sarah. As I looked around the classroom of boys running around and yelling, I remembered when I told one of my best friends in grade school that I liked a girl named Katie, and the next day everyone knew. I connected with Greg, not because I was an expert on advice, but because I could see some of myself in him. I told him that he should simply let it go, and that everybody would forget about the whole thing in a couple of days when something more interesting came around. I don't know if he took my words for help, but I hope he did.

I saw how I could make my project

worthwhile: I could be myself, for starters. Although I enjoyed starting huge kickball games at lunch recess with the first, second, and fourth graders, I saw beyond the simplicity of just being a pal to the kids for three weeks. It was more than the enthusiasm and the interaction that helped me enjoy my kindness more. It was through helping guys like Greg that I found my role. I could look at a student like Greg and see a loud and happy kid, but miss the truth if I did not sit and talk with him. The significance of my project came from sharing my life experiences with students and helping them make it through a complex stage in their lives.

I saw myself in the faces of some of the students, and I understood that my senior project was unique because the needs of the people I was working with weren't easy to pinpoint. David from fourth grade told me that he liked jumping rope now, after he had said "This is so stupid" on the first day. I met his mom in the hall one day, and she had told me how her sons had talked about Mr. Brian from school. She also mentioned that they were jumping rope all around the house that weekend.

My greatest experience was my time with Greg. Although I didn't recognize it at first, I learned more about myself and my own weaknesses and doubts through talking with him. When I wasn't focusing

on how bad I felt about not taking away a whole new outlook on the world, I saw that he was such an interesting person. I don't doubt that he has been made fun of since my last day of project, but I hope that I helped him understand how to deal with the difficulties of his life and that sweating the small issues, like everyone knowing who he likes, will not matter next week, nor when he gets married.

I still wonder if I made a difference during my senior project. I did not feel the joy that comes from working with the handicapped or underprivileged, nor know what they go through. People talk of experiencing a metanoia through certain experiences, and although I wanted to have that conversion, I did not. However, I found that being passionate about others will not only help them in times of trouble, but it will help me discover more about who I am and who I want to become.

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A Family Mass will be  
 held on Sunday,  
 February 29, at 9:30  
 a.m. in the SLUH  
 chapel. All are invited.

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