

Prep News



"If nothing else, value the truth"

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Racquetball repeats at state (again)

Phil Mathews
Reporter

The Racquetbills captured their third state title in a row last Saturday, defeating runner-up and rival powerhouse DeSmet along with several other schools by a wide margin. The Jr. Bills finished the day spectacularly with five first-place finishers and two in second. Although the final scores of the top three finishers (SLUH-635, DeSmet-420, and Kirkwood-210) appeared wide, this state tournament was extremely close down to the final minutes.

The varsity Racquetbills had no prob-

lems at all in the early rounds, as every single Jr. Bill made it to the final of his own division. However, number three seed senior Eric Weber's match stood out because he faced his rival DeSmet opponent in the semifinals. After a rough first game loss of 13-15, Weber demonstrated his experience, rebounding to win 15-6 and 11-3. However, Weber ended up losing in the final in a long, hard-fought battle against his Kirkwood opponent, 12-15, 15-7, 9-11. Still, the advantage belonged to SLUH.

Immediately following Weber's match, senior Tom Carrow stepped on to the court to face DeSmet's Charlie Hostman in the second seed final. Carrow

came into the match fired up, allowing a sum of only six points during his first two matches. After an initial lead in the first game for Carrow, DeSmet's Hostman eventually overtook Carrow in two games, 12-15 and 11-15. Meanwhile, number five, junior Eric Durban, and four, senior John Reagan were losing in their matches. Suddenly, the momentum heavily rested on DeSmet's side, and the Racquetbills were in serious jeopardy of defeat.

Durban had lost his first game badly, 6-15, and was at a nearly impossible 0-11 deficit in the second. He was out of control, and his DeSmet opponent was run-
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— NEWS FEATURE — Student Race Panel

Jonathan Kim
Editor

Since February is Black History Month, the *Prep News* convened a panel of students in the Ignatian Conference Room to discuss students' experiences with and feelings about race and diversity during their time at St. Louis U. High. The panel, consisting of students from each grade level, lasted for about an hour and 20 minutes after school on Tuesday. Sports editor W. David Mueller, the moderator, asked a series of general questions for the students to respond to based on their particular experiences.

Mueller first asked about how students experience the issue of race in the classroom.

Senior Tim Simon, who went to a public grade school, said, "(Public school) was a lot more diverse as far as white and
see **DIVERSITY**, 11

Sweatshop presentation leaves mark; Nike to present today

Greg Fox
Core Staff

Catholic social teaching has a long and rich history, dating back to the early days of the Church and Jesus's teachings. While the teachings themselves have changed and adapted to modern circumstances, the spirit behind the teachings has not. Last Friday, St. Louis U. High students were exposed—many for the first time—to one issue: sweatshops in the apparel industry, particularly focusing on Nike's abuses of workers in the Indonesian town of Tangerang.

Jim Keady and Leslie Kretzu, co-founders and co-directors of Educating For Justice (EFJ), made a presentation that dealt with their findings from trips to Tangerang over the period of 2000-02. During their 2000 trip, Keady and Kretzu lived as the sweatshop laborers lived, right

down to the daily wage of \$1.25 per day that Nike's laborers receive. Keady and Kretzu were never allowed to tour Nike facilities, and at one point during their latest research trip, their van was hijacked and their driver beaten.

Theology teachers Brian Christopher, S.J., and Rob Garavaglia organized the assembly and had originally planned either a debate or a panel between Keady, Kretzu, and a Nike representative. Nike declined to send a representative and opted to send a packet "telling their side of the story," according to Christopher. "They never sent the packet."

SLUH then arranged, through a contact of Garavaglia's, to have a Nike representative attend the assembly. This did not pan out either. Because Keady and Kretzu were approaching the issue from a standpoint of faith and Catholic social
see **WAGES**, 10

Tom Fontana
Core Staff

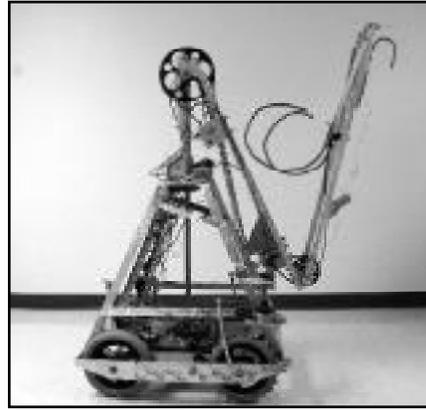
Last Wednesday, the St. Louis U. High Robotics Club traveled to Gateway Tech to test this year's yet-to-be-named robot before shipping it away yesterday to be inspected for the St. Louis regional For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics Competition scheduled for March 11-13 at the St. Charles Family Arena.

Gateway Tech has constructed a copy of this year's playing field and allows area schools to come test their robots on the field. This year's course consists of a large platform atop a carpeted surface upon which stand large cylinders and a 10-foot-high bar. There are also two mobile cylinders with 34-inch diameter yellow balls on top of them.

Robots will face off four at a time, randomly paired in teams of two. Each two-minute match will begin with 15 seconds of autonomous, or self-controlled, mode, during which the robot must travel to the side of the arena and knock a 13-

inch diameter yellow ball from a pedestal. During autonomous mode, the robot uses an accelerometer to sense its own position, speed, and acceleration. Once the ball has been knocked off the pedestal, or once 45 seconds has expired, 18 more purple balls, 13 inches in diameter each, will be released onto the field.

Robots must then push the balls into a corral at the field boundary. The Voltronbills have equipped the front of their robot with collapsible arms to push the balls. Teams earn points by throwing the balls into the cylinders at the center, introducing a human factor into the mechanical melee. "(Throwing the balls) puts less emphasis on building a robot that works well, but it's fun," said senior Nick Berndsen.



The robot weighs in at 130.9 lbs.

PHOTO BY DAVID WHEELER

Robots may push or pull the moveable goals around the field. If a robot can lift a one of two yellow balls and place it on top of one of the stationary cylinders, it doubles the number of points earned by the balls in the cylinder.

The OptimusPrimebills have built a collapsible arm with two curled rubber-coated claws to lift the yellow ball that folds onto the back of the robot. With the arm fully extended, the robot stands about 13 feet tall, but the arm must fold down to allow the robot to meet the five foot height requirement.

The robot can attempt to latch onto the 10-foot-high bar and pull itself into the air using the long arm. According to senior Frank Havlak, "The large arm was by far the most difficult thing (to build)...One, we didn't really have a design for it until we started putting it together. Two, it's huge, which is an engineering challenge in and of itself."

The top eight teams will advance from the qualifying round into the elimination round. However, each of the eight teams gets to bring two other teams along with it to form an alliance for the elimination round. This system necessitates shameless self-promotion on the part of every robot crew to attempt to secure a place in the next round even if they do not finish in the top eight. The ForbiddenPlanetbills have decided to play upon one of humanity's universal vices: the love of all things shiny and round. The SLUH team covered their robot's front wheels in marbles to improve its traction, and they have decided to offer any surplus marbles to other teams. Havlak said, "They'll pick us because we've got marbles. It's a great strategy. It cannot fail."

Though this year's robot contains
 see **MACHINE HEAD**, 11

Contest to decide stadium logo

Brian Krebs
Core Staff

On Tuesday, Feb. 24th, amidst Facilities Director Patrick Zarrick's junior retreat group, an idea came up regarding the turf to be installed in the stadium.

Zarrick credits the suggestion to Kevin Weidner. During some free time, the subject of Vision 2000 and the artificial turf arose. The students were especially interested in the midfield design. One student suggested that a contest be held to select the logo. Zarrick decided to hold such a contest and, with a deadline drawing near, is getting the word out.

The design will be approximately forty by forty feet on the field, and it will be limited to only two colors: blue and white. Although a white circle will encompass the logo, the design itself does not necessarily need to be circular. Zarrick mentioned the possibility of including the fleur-de-lis, the school seal, or the Junior

Bill mascot. However, these items are optional. The only requirement is that the submissions have "St. Louis U. High" or the acronym included.

The design will be chosen by a committee which will include Zarrick and President Paul Sheridan, S.J. Zarrick estimates that a decision will be made within three weeks. He also adds that the artist of the winning design will receive fifty dollars and "the prestige of (having the) artwork displayed in the center of the stadium for a minimum of ten years."

Students, faculty, staff, alumni, and relatives of students, past and present, can submit. Submissions can be submitted to the *Prep News* office (J220) by Wednesday, March 3, by the end of school.

Zarrick summarized the importance of the contest, saying, "This contest will provide an opportunity for a member of the SLUH community to contribute his or her artwork and creativity to the final design of the turf."

COMMENTARY

Hall questions purpose of Vision 2000

Charlie Hall
Features Editor

Today our prime educational objective must be to form men for others," said Pedro Arrupe S.J., former superior General of the Society of Jesus. In looking at the recent Vision 2000 proposals for SLUH's expansion, I feel that the plans are misguided, unfocused steps away from the values of SLUH and toward a future school characterized not by its merits but by wealth, size, and appearance.

SLUH's Graduate at Graduation lists qualities a graduate should have after four years of a SLUH experience. The qualities include being open to growth, intellectually competent, religious, loving, and being committed to doing justice. In what ways do eight new acres of athletic fields help a SLUH student achieve these goals? In what ways does the proposed student life center achieve these goals? In the proposed plans, synergism and recreation seem to be elevated over the qualities this school was founded upon.

In student surveys conducted last week, the majority of students agreed that it is relationships between teachers and students and among students that make SLUH unique, in addition to school spirit and its strong academics. In unpublished comments, one student wrote that Fr. Hagan's stories make SLUH what it is. Others wrote that it is the openness among students that

makes their experience at SLUH rewarding. No students expressed the need for new gyms or new club offices. No students expressed a need for recreational "patio space."

The surveys did show that students strongly associate SLUH's mission statement with the school's Catholic values, Jesuit identity, and its pastoral program. However, a much smaller percentage of students stated that these spiritual aspects of SLUH life were valuable to their SLUH experience.

What, then, are the Vision 2000 proposals in response to?

The proposals send a conflicting message to faculty and students, current and future. SLUH has made a commitment toward continuing its strong academics program, but how can a school that claims to be committed to the growth of the whole person rightly justify \$16 million in spending geared toward recreation and athletics? Is our physical education program inadequate? Is the new fitness center insufficient?

The proposal's claim that the expansion will be an "investment in the city" is also confusing. The new SLUH campus will be completely self-contained during school, and after school there will be no reason for most teams to leave the campus for practices and home games. For a school just blocks away from one of the largest recreational parks in the country, the plans' emphasis on recreational space shows that the proposers are more concerned about having facilities than actually needing them.

see VISION, 12

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Pettit thanks SLUH community for support

Editor's Note: Mr. Pettit passed away last Wednesday during the surgical procedure he mentions in the first paragraph of his letter.

To my SLUH family:

Well, it's February 2004, and I'm two weeks away from my unrelated stem cell transplant. Since it's a pretty risky procedure and the outcome is very uncertain, I thought I'd write a general letter to all of you. There are so many of you that whether I get more years because of this procedure or not, I thought I'd write a letter to all of you. Extra years would probably not allow me enough time to adequately express my feelings to so many of you on a personal basis.

First and foremost, thanks for truly being part of my family, not just since I was diagnosed, but well before then. Whether you're a teacher, administrator,

coach, fellow parent, or more importantly, student, you've always made the Pettit family feel like a part of SLUH.

What a wonderful place SLUH is. Most parents send their sons to get a great education. I don't know any parent who ever comes away disappointed. We certainly have not. However, as most of you parents have experienced, you come away with so much more. Your sons are definitely ready for college, but more importantly, they're ready for life and for being "Men For Others." We too, as parents, are better for the experiences we've had at SLUH, whether it's sitting together on a cold night at a football game, tending a bar at Cashbah, attending the Father-Son banquet, trying not to embarrass ourselves at the Father-Son, or working on Thanksgiving Day service projects. There has always been, and will always be, a place for us at SLUH. And for that, I am eternally grateful.

Over the years, I've seen so many young boys enter the doors of SLUH, frightened and in awe. I've seen them develop into wonderful young men, ready to take on the world and make it a better place. You couldn't ask for more as a parent. We are so fortunate to have the wonderful faculty, staff, alumni, and board that support the students. They are the real reason SLUH turns out such wonderful young men.

As for the faculty, thanks. Both of my sons attended SLUH, and I couldn't be prouder of them. You had a lot to do with that. You got them ready for college. What a relief. They still use what you taught them in their everyday lives. Tom's trip to Honduras will forever affect him in a positive way. You coaches were great. As soon as I was diagnosed, you stepped up and kept an eye on Mike. The team dedicating the season to me was one of the

see PETTIT, 12

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Baudendistel responds
to Donovan

To The Editor:

Imagine, if you can, that SLUH does not have a gymnasium.

Instead, the basketball program receives three hours of court time somewhere else. As this is not enough time for the 40 or so basketball players, the coaches decide to overlap the practices for 30 minutes while the athletes perform conditioning drills. There wouldn't be enough space on a regulation court, but this court is not regulation; it's only two-thirds the size. And the walls of the gym are up against the boundaries of the court, so there is no dead space to use either.

SLUH basketball players are warned not to leave anything in the locker rooms while they practice, because it may be stolen by someone not from SLUH. Annually, a basketball player from another school approaches a SLUH coach to ask whether or not the coach has seen the boy's wallet, or his watch, or his shoes. The coach can only shake his head empathetically and refer the boy to the building's lost and found, which invariably does not have the missing item.

Each of the past two years, a SLUH basketball player has contracted an eye infection from using the facility. Last year, two other players suffered gashes on their feet through innocent contact with the floor. Another group of people from the community regularly tracks mud onto the floor, and roaches can occasionally be found crawling around. Plans to perform maintenance which would allow the facility to meet health code standards were canceled last year because of budget constraints.

The basketball players and coaches are not thrilled with the situation, but they are grateful nonetheless, because it beats the alternative. Three years ago, even this court was unavailable. The teams were forced to practice at a different court, one which did not have any baskets, so the players could not practice their shooting.

see BAUD, 11

Paradise criticizes lack of singing at Mass

Dear Editor,

The family that we have at St. Louis U. High is a unique gift that must be cherished. During Wednesday's Mass, I finally realized after three-and-a-half years how precious it is for the student body to be guided by teachers and staff who openly share their faith. I am grateful that I have the opportunity to develop a relationship with my teachers, knowing that they are not just here to teach, but also to share in my developing relationship with God. It is special to be able to come to Mass together and to dissolve our student-teacher identities, praying on the same level, as human beings. I want to take this chance and thank the teachers and other adults at SLUH for being so open to us in sharing their faith.

However, at Mass, I noticed something that really bothered me. It has become a concern that the students are not entirely participating in the Mass. There have been several meetings in which this issue has come up, and teachers have discussed ways of getting the students more actively involved, such as singing and responding. Sitting with my fellow chorus members, who at every Mass sing their hearts out, wanting so much for the

entire school to sing too (no matter how pretty or ugly a person's voice is), I saw that, as usual, many people were not singing. I am not accusing anyone. I just wish that there wasn't any hesitation to sing. As Mr. Chik has said, "Why can't we yell our hearts out for God, when we are hoarse by the end of a soccer game?" A major reason for this insecurity is that the students have hardly anyone to look up to as an example, besides the chorus. I am talking about SLUH's adults. Although the adults, who expect SLUH students, being the wonderful leaders and Men for Others they are, to sing, very few were singing themselves.

Although I know this trivial matter about singing at Mass is overlooking the more important spirituality of the Mass itself for the individual; nevertheless, I want the teachers to know that I am ashamed they would ask us to sing when they, as a whole, do not.

Therefore, I challenge each member of the SLUH family, especially our adult leaders, to break down any barriers of hesitation at our Masses and to *truly*, openly share their faith with one another.

Matthew Paradise '04

Snodgrass encourages raffle ticket sale

To the Editor,

My name is Kathryn Snodgrass. I am one of the alumni moms working on the travel raffle. When I was in high school, most of our teachers belonged to religious orders. They were our school's endowment. Today, our schools are staffed by lay people. These teachers need to make a decent wage.

Because tuition does not cover what it costs to educate you, we must have fundraisers. The only fundraiser that involves the student body is the travel raffle. We are now at the halfway point in this drive. We are asking each student to sell his tickets. If each student sells four tickets he will get a day off. Right now, the freshmen lead the race.

Twenty dollars is a lot of money. Go

to your non-SLUH friends, your aunts, uncles, neighbors. If you work, go to your boss. Try to ask everyone you know to buy a ticket! I know that at my daughter's school they always got their day off. Good luck and sell, sell, sell.

Kathryn Snodgrass

Quote of the Week

Capt. Jack Sparrow: *Why is the rum gone?*
Elizabeth: *One, because it is a vile drink that turns even the most respectable men into complete scoundrels. Two, that signal is over a thousand feet high. The entire royal navy is out looking for me; do you really think that there is EVEN the slightest chance that they won't see it?*

Capt. Jack Sparrow: *But why is the rum gone?*

—Pirates of the Caribbean

Fritz Long named Mo. Coach of the Year

W. David Mueller
Sports Editor

On Feb. 11, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) honored St. Louis U. High swimming and diving head coach Frederick "Fritz" Long as the Missouri Boys Swimming and Diving 2003 Coach of the Year.

"The National Federation?" said Athletic Director Richard Wehner. "That's big."

NFHS, based in Indianapolis, awards a coach from each state with the Coach of the Year award for many of the major high school sports for both men and women's teams.

Speaking of the NFHS Wehner said, "They entertain nominations from coaches within the state, and I'm sure coach Long's name came up a few times.... A lot of the time it kind of goes hand in hand with

winning the state championship."

"He's definitely taken the swimming program and raised the bar." Wehner then brushed the award aside momentarily. "He's been really good for our kids."

Long said he was proud to represent SLUH.

So what makes Long such an honorable coach?

"He really knows his stuff," said senior Kurt Doll. "Swimming is a sport that you kind of have to have an extensive background in to coach well."

Long swam throughout his high school career at Regis in Denver. He stayed in swimming, and upon landing a teaching position at Rosati-Kain teaching history to juniors and seniors, he started coaching as an assistant for their swimming team. He has remained an assistant there for the past three years.

Assistant coach Tim O'Neil said his experience showed in the team's prac-

tices. "He knows what it takes to win and he builds his practice around that."

Doll said, "Before he got here...our practices weren't all that challenging."

But a coach must also have a keen eye for technique, a difficult skill in swimming, a sport where the technique does not revolve around a spherical projectile.

"There are certain aspects to swimming (well)," Doll explained. "You can throw a person into water and he'll doggy paddle. It's instinctual. But staying high in the water is something he's good at showing you."

"A lot of swimming is form," said O'Neil. "You have to make sure your turn is right, or your start is right, and you can lose a race because of that... He's good at communicating adjustments."

Long said eyeing adjustments took time to learn. "It's difficult to observe," he said. "Each swimmer has their own varia-

see OLYMPIC SIZED, 6

Cagers win first district game versus Beaumont

Kyle Poelker
Reporter

The Jr. Bills walked into Spartan Country last Friday as underdogs, as they generally have been for the last 10 years, yet it was the Jr. Bills on this night who were looking to put together back-to-back wins against the Spartans at the SLUH West campus. Yet even with the momentum of hard-fought battles and near wins against Vianney and Chaminade, they were still fighting the uphill battle.

The Jr. Bills were looking to give to DeSmet, on their senior night, the same punishment that SLUH had gotten on theirs: a loss to a rival school.

But things did not start out well for the Jr. Bills, and midway through the first quarter, down four, the Jr. Bills were looking for any offensive spark they could find while trying to not be outscored before they could find it.

Even superstar Dave Goettelmann could not get his stroke going early, and with only six points in the first quarter, the Jr. Bills faced a seven-point deficit.

The second quarter followed a similar scoring pattern. But sophomore standout Tim Garvey, who has been gaining more and more confidence with every game, stepped up his play, nailing a trey to bring the Jr. Bills within one possession with just a few minutes left in the half. But even that flickering couldn't overcome the poor officiating of the first half, a half where all the calls went against the U. High. The officials called six fouls against the Jr. Bills, which led to a 10-point lead for the Spartans.

So back to the locker room they went, and out came a different Jr. Bills squad. Early out of the gate, senior John Kaminski, who had been struggling, hit a nice shot which was followed by a Goettelmann bomb, bringing the Jr. Bills within nine.

After some more chipping away of the lead, Andy Lowes, the team's most experienced player, stepped up and nailed a trey that brought the game back to within a possession.

Despite this outpouring of points, the Jr. Bills were still down as the fourth quarter began, and they had to call all of their reserves to get close. But they never gave up. The quarter started with a Goettelmann three, and was followed by a Kaminski three-point play that put the Jr. Bills down by only six.

Then it was the sophomore's turn again, and Garvey, showing poise and moxie, hit another big shot from be-

see BEAU, 8



Andy Lowes drives to the hoop.

PHOTO BY W. DAVID MUELLER

Sharpshooters take rare loss

Chris Seals
Reporter

On Feb. 4th, the Riflebills lost their first match in several years. The match was against Quincy High School, the archnemesis of the St. Louis U. High rifle team.

What was expected to be an easy win backfired into a full-scale disaster. The Quincy team took advantage of the absence of captain Chris Seals, who reluctantly stayed behind at SLUH to take the dreaded ACT. Quincy shot a score of 2201, beating out SLUH's score of 2171.

Manager Matt Winkeler said of the loss, "We just weren't shooting well today, and Quincy took advantage."

Not all matches in February were bleak for the Sniperbills. On the 14th, SLUH traveled to Highland, Ill., to compete in the National Rifle Association sectionals, where the varsity team shot a solid score of 2239, the third highest score in SLUH history. The team predicts the score will snag them first place in the nation.

For the past two years, the varsity team has reached second place nation-

ally, and they eagerly await this release of the scores in the fall. Kevin Witbrodt shot a personal record of 576. The other members of the team consisted of Seals (559), Andrew Hrdlicka (558), and Brian Nienhaus (546). The JV team, consisting of Bryan Carlin (540), Joe Reinders (515), Patrick Zelaya (529), and Anthony Keel (472), shot a total of 2056.

Last weekend SLUH hosted the 2004 Air Rifle Sectionals. Again, Quincy caused the Riflebills trouble. The varsity team of Hrdlicka (372), Witbrodt (360), and Nienhaus (368) posted a score of 1100, which was barely overcome by Quincy's 1102.

The junior varsity team of Seals, Carlin, and Zelaya posted a close 1098, putting all three teams within four points of each other, making for an incredibly close match.

Today after school, the Bolt-actionbills travel to Quincy for the Mid-America High School Rifle Championship, where several rifle teams from across the midwest will compete in a tournament involving both smallbore and air rifle. SLUH has come in first place in the MAHSRC since 2001, and looks to dominate the competition again this weekend.

Swimming enjoyed success

Nick Appelbaum
Reporter

Now that the 2003-04 swimming season is over, one might be tempted to think that it was not a successful one for the St. Louis U. High Jr. Bills. They would be wrong, of course—horribly wrong. In fact, the team had arguably a better season than last year, when they won the state championship.

They posted only one regular season loss in each of the last two years, but last year's team was also involved in a tie. As far as talent, this year's team was slightly better than their predecessors were. Last year, the diving left much to be desired, and the Aquabills relied solely on their swimming. This year, the dive squad improved vastly, with sophomore Zach Berndsen leading the way. The

improved diving helped the team win close meets, especially the Marquette Relays, which they won by a mere two points.

Assistant coach Tim O'Neil had an impressive rookie coaching season. "I had a rather enjoyable experience," he said. "Overall, the season was a great success. How often can you say you're the second-best team in the state and the best in St. Louis? That's definitely something to be proud of. I learned a lot about the sport, and I look forward to next year." O'Neil formerly had no experience with competitive swimming.

Next season will be a test of the team's development. The team is losing four seniors that scored points in the state meet, compared to only one last year.

"I think we can make it (next year)," sophomore Jon Dombek asserted.

OLYMPIC SIZED

(from 5)

tion of the same stroke.... It takes more personal interaction to interpret technique."

He continued, "I know how Kurt Doll's stroke works, so I can address nuances of technique to his body type."

Long insisted that the NFHS saw how the team performed and not how he coached. "I wouldn't have been thought of for this award if guys wouldn't have worked hard for me," Long said.

Doll had a slightly different view: "He's the kind of guy that you want to work hard for."

Long commented about that player-coach relationship and working in a different school. "I do miss seeing the guys in the hall after the season, you know, making sure they keep up with their grades."

He continued, "On the other hand, sometimes I can have a closer relationship because then I don't have to worry about favoritism in the classroom."

Long led the team to the state meet again this year. They finished second behind Blue Springs.

2004 Varsity Football Captains

Matt Behr
Matt Herzberg
Will Holleman
Dave Klug
Ryan Morgan

Grapplers send four wrestlers to state tourney

Ryan Stevenson
Reporter

This past Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, four St. Louis U. High wrestlers competed in the 2004 Missouri State High School Athletic Association Championship at the Hearnes Center in Columbia, Missouri. Junior Andrew Poulin (119) and senior captains Mike Smith (145), Greg Leibach (189), and Jim Croghan (heavyweight) all qualified to wrestle at state. Unfortunately, none of these wrestlers were able to earn a prestigious state medal, but they all wrestled with class and poise and represented SLUH wrestling well against tough competition.

The state tournament is a three-day, double-elimination tournament with the top sixteen wrestlers in each weight class competing. Getting the opportunity to compete in such a tournament is no small feat: To qualify, a wrestler must place in the top four in both the district tournament and the sectional tournament.

Poulin led off with a first-round match against a tough opponent from Seckman who would eventually take fifth place. Poulin wrestled a tough first period but got in trouble in the first period when he was put on his back. Poulin wasn't able to fight off his back and was pinned.

His second match was against another tough opponent, this one out of Northwest High School. The match started before the coaches could get to mat-side, but it didn't last much longer. Poulin was surprised by a quick takedown to his back and was pinned again.

"I think I was surprised by the level of competition up here, but the experience will prepare me for next year," Poulin commented. He hopes to make a return to Columbia next year as a senior. With enough training as a senior, he could even bring home a medal.

Senior Mike Smith fared a little better than Poulin in the 145-pound weight class. He received a less-than-ideal draw and wrestled the fourth-ranked wrestler in the state in his first match. Smith wrestled a tough match but lost by pin. Smith

hoped to fare better in the second round, but again, he ran into a bad draw when he wrestled the sixth-ranked wrestler. Smith was unable to stop a takedown to his back and lost again by fall.

Head coach Tim Curdt said, "(Smith) wrestled well and he has been dealing with an injury all season, so it is a testimony to how tough he is that he was able to wrestle at state."

Smith was disappointed about the end of his wrestling career. "I have all this free time now and I don't know what to do," he said. But he plans on drowning his sorrow and filling some of that free time by eating plenty of food.

Leibach wrestled well in a competitive 189-pound weight class. His first match was against the returning state champion and the eventual 2004 runner-up, and as Leibach put it, "You know you're in trouble when you are wrestling the guy with the picture (in the program)." Leibach had wrestled this opponent twice during the regular season and each time performed better against him. This time was no exception. He wrestled two tough periods, fighting off takedowns from his opponent, but was turned early in the third and pinned. "He was really strong," Leibach said, "but it was fun to wrestle him."

In Leibach's second-round match, he turned in the first SLUH victory of the tourney. He faced his Francis Howell opponent with intensity and scored several takedowns and a few back points to win 15-7. Leibach seemed to be on a tear, and faced his third-round opponent, the tenth-ranked wrestler from Marquette, with the same intensity he had shown in the last two matches. It was looking good for Leibach and he was controlling his opponent well until the referee made a controversial call at the end of the second period by calling Leibach pinned after the clock stopped. The referee had the final say, and Leibach's career ended on a down note, but he soon returned to his normal cheerful self and felt good about his four years on the team.

Croghan also turned in an impressive

performance in the heavyweight class. His first-round match was against the number six-ranked wrestler in the state, and Croghan gave him a tough match. They wrestled a very close match, but Croghan came out on bottom in the end and lost 3-2.

Croghan turned it around in the second round and earned a second SLUH victory against a tough Ray-Pec opponent with a score of 8-4. "It was awesome to win at state. I was really pumped the whole time," he said.

Croghan continued his streak through the third round where he threw the number ten-ranked wrestler to his back for a first-period pin. By winning these two matches, Croghan had put himself in the top eight of the tourney, and he only needed to win one more match to be in the top six and earn a medal. Unfortunately, he was unable to turn in the win and lost his next match by a score of 5-2 to the number four-ranked wrestler from Blue Springs High School.

Curdt was excited to see Croghan's performance and nearly knocked over his chair when Croghan won his second match. "(Croghan) wrestled tough and came out not afraid of anyone regardless of seed or ranking. He wrestled everyone to win. To see a 275-pound body fly through the air and know it's not your wrestler is a great feeling."

The wrestlers returned from an exciting tournament Saturday night a little heavier and very satisfied. They celebrate their season Wednesday with their Awards and Letters Banquet.

Quote of the Week

"The privilege of absurdity; to which no living creature is subject but man only."

—Thomas Hobbes

BEAU

(from 5)

yond the arc with five minutes to play that pulled the Jr. Bills to within three at 44-41.

But that was as close as the Jr. Bills could get, and despite their best efforts, they couldn't chip away any more at the DeSmet lead that seemed to perpetually replenish itself. Even with great efforts by Goettelmann, Garvey, and Kaminski, who notched 13, 12, and 9 points, respectively, SLUH West still came out on top.

But this was not the team's most important game of the week, because it meant nothing. It was their game Wednesday night, against Beaumont, that would determine if their season would go on or if it would end right then.

Despite all the pressure, the Jr. Bills were not nervous about the game that their coach had talked about since the beginning of the season.

"We're not nervous; we're ready," said senior Chris Luth.

Jeff Milles added, "We have the best chance to win our district since we've been at SLUH. We're not nervous about the game; our whole season has built up to this."

But at the game's beginning, that wasn't how things seemed. The ultra-quick Beaumont team came out with full-court, on-the-ball pressure that took the Jr. Bills aback at the game's beginning; the Jr. Bills were behind at the end of the first quarter, 15-10.

The second quarter didn't look any more promising. Beaumont's stifling defense had shut the Jr. Bills down, and they opened up the second quarter with an eight-point run capped off by a slam by one of the Bluejackets.

Though they looked to be down and out, the Jr. Bills followed the lead of their floor general, Garvey, who knocked down a three to stop the run and put the Jr. Bills back on track. After chipping away at the Beaumont lead, back-to-back bombs by senior Andy Lowes and Goettelmann put the Jr. Bills within one at the break, down 26-25.

And it was butter the rest of the way. One minute out of the halftime huddle, it was Lowes who struck again, hitting another three-pointer, one of his three on the night, that took the lead back for the Jr. Bills for good.

From then on, it was all about the Jr. Bills, with Goettelmann notching another long-range bomb and Kaminski picking up points down low for the Jr. Bills.

But the game wasn't over then by any means. With two minutes left, the Bluejackets decided that fouling the Jr. Bills was the way to go, and they were right on. With a four-point lead, the Jr. Bills proceeded to miss 12 of their following 14 free throws, two of which came on a technical foul on the Beaumont coach for physically reaching onto the court and stealing the ball from John Kaminski's hands.

Despite perhaps the poorest free throw shooting imaginable at crunch time, the Jr. Bills hung on behind the heart of Lowes, the game leader with 17 points, and eked out a 52-46 victory for a chance to challenge for the district title against Normandy on Friday, at SLUH.

Come out to support the Jr. Bills for their first chance to capture a district championship in basketball in recent memory, as they take on the Normandy Vikings tonight at SLUH at 6 p.m.

Chessnuts roast the competition and advance *Chess team in playoffs for first time since reformation*

Tim Huether
Core Staff

On Wednesday night, the St. Louis U. High chess team secured a spot in the Gateway Chess League playoffs for the first time since reforming three years ago.

In a match that took place in the North American Martyrs Chapel, SLUH turned Alton away without allowing a point. With wins by senior Kevin Milford, juniors Isaac Dripps and Brian Nienhaus, and sophomores Tim Schmidt and Matt Angeli, SLUH blanked Alton 30-0.

Chess matches feature five separate matches. Scoring for each match ranges from eight points to four points.

Despite the score, the match was closer than it may seem. Both Nienhaus's eight-point match and Angeli's four-point match were heavily contested. However, Schmidt's, Milford's, and Dripps' seven-, six-, and five-point matches, respectively, were won decisively.

The victory marked the first trip to the playoffs in the brief three-year history of the team, and also marked its first winning season.

"This is only the third year, and we started with a really young team. Over two years we have made it to the conference finals, which is really terrific," said moderator Joan Bugnitz

"It was huge to come back in our third

year and get second in conference. After two years of rebuilding, it's great to even get to the playoffs," said Nienhaus.

Next Wednesday, the chess team will face Metro in the semifinals of the East Conference of the Gateway Chess League next Wednesday in the North American Martyrs Chapel.

Schmidt anticipates a tough match against Metro. "It was tough when we played them in the season. We just barely won that match with a bunch of upsets."

The chess team encourages fans to show up for the match on Wednesday, although, as Bugnitz pointed out, "(Fans) aren't allowed to cheer."

Latin clubs party in togas

Charles Ullman
Reporter

On Sunday evening, nearly 150 students from St. Joseph's Academy, Cor Jesu Academy, and St. Louis U. High were greeted by the SLUH Latin Club's praetorian guards for this year's Toga Party.

After a few minutes of socializing and pairing of the classical couples, students got in line for dinner: lasagna, Caesar salad, and garlic bread, and various themed desserts.

After everyone filled up with authentic Italian food, club officer Henry Samson rallied students together to watch members of each school's club perform a skit, while competing for the first annual Toga Cup, given to the school with the best-performed skit.

St. Joseph's Academy incorporated

21 advance in math competition

Kyle Kloster
Reporter

Sixteen days ago, on Feb. 10, 116 St. Louis U. High students sat in the cafeteria hunched over bubble-answer sheets and a small, 25-question test. Throughout their first and second periods, the Ogivebills were allowed out of their classes to compete in the American Mathematics Contest. Students from all four classes participated in the contest, although a different test was given to upperclassmen and underclassmen. The problems on the test ranged from geometry and trigonometry to probability, and the only tools allowed were a calculator, pencil, and scratch paper. Answering correctly on any of the 25 questions earned six points, leaving an answer blank received two and one-half points, and an incorrect answer earned nothing.

Out of the 116 Error:overflow-bills that took the test, 21 achieved a score high enough to advance to the next round of the competition. Two freshmen and one sophomore succeeded in earning at least the 110 points required for underclassmen to move on. As he did last year, sophomore Timo Kim scored the highest among all freshmen and sophomores this

Jeopardy and History for their performance of "Ancient International *Jeopardy*." SLUH re-enacted the myth of Paris and the Golden Apple with random additions based on such movies as *Dude, Where's My Car*. Cor Jesu's re-enactment of Ovid's love story about Eros and Psyche won the cup.

The skits were followed by students dancing to live music by Brooklyn Deadwood, a band composed of juniors Jay "Carl" Murphy, Eric "Riceface" Venker, and DeSmet juniors Jimmy "Wildman" Powers and Mike "Patty" Beck, Jr. The band was decked out in togas along with the other students and "helped give this year's Toga Party an edge," says Consul Nick Speiser.

"Overall," says Latin Club moderator Mary Lee McConaghy, "the night was a huge success, and I look forward to next year's."

year, earning him a bronze medal for his performance.

Twelve seniors and four juniors, accompanied by Chinese exchange students Emma Liu and Jash Guo, scored at or above 100 points to reach the next round of the competition. Senior Rob Ryan earned the top upperclassman score, followed closely by second place senior Joe Marincel.

All of the 21 Euclidbills participating in the next round will take the American Invitational Mathematics Examination, a three-hour, 15-question test, on Tuesday, March 23rd. This test is much more difficult and has an average score of about one correct answer, with a school record of five correct answers.

To advance from the AIME to the national contest, students must accumulate a score of 200 total points from the AMC and AIME (which awards ten points for each correct answer) or the highest score in the state. The national competition consists of six questions and allows contenders two full days to work on them. Usually about 150 students compete in the national competition, but only one SLUH student has ever earned one of the fifteen spots on the international team.

Buthod competes in Shakespeare competition

Eric Durban
Reporter

In the afternoon of Feb. 21, junior Jack Buthod ventured to the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL) Conference Center, accompanied by English teacher Chuck Hussung inside UMSL's renovated chapel.

Buthod competed in a Shakespeare competition sponsored by the English-Speaking Union. The Union is interested in and sponsors such events to promote the English language.

Competing against Buthod were sophomores, juniors, and seniors from seven other schools.

In order to qualify for this competition, Buthod had first to win a similar contest against his fellow students. Contestants had to prepare a monologue of 15 to 20 lines and a sonnet from Shakespeare to recite before a panel of three judges. Buthod prepared the character of Shylock from Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*, as well as Sonnet 66 ("Tired with all these, for restful death I cry"). Assisting Buthod in his preparation were Hussung and English teacher Mark Cummings.

Although he did not win, Buthod was happy to be involved in the competition. "The judges gave me a lot of tips," said Buthod. After competing for the first time this year, he would like to compete again next year. "It was a good experience and it helped me develop," Buthod explained.

Although the winner was not a Jr. Bill, SLUH still had ties to the victor of the competition. Maggie McKenna, a senior at Nerinx and the daughter of counselor Ken McKenna, took home first place. She will travel to New York in the coming months to compete in the national competition. Last year's SLUH representative, Alan Naylor, '03, was the winner of the competition held in St. Louis and likewise advanced to New York City for the national competition.

(from 1)

teaching, Nike did not attend the assembly, though they did send a fact sheet as counterpoint to Keady and Kretzu's arguments. The sheet was available as students left the gymnasium. According to a letter Keady and Kretzu sent to the school before today's presentation by Nike, "This is not the first time this has happened."

Keady called Nike's reasons for not attending the assembly a "cop-out." Keady cited the possibility of approaching the issue from a humanist perspective as opposed to a faith-based perspective, and offered to let Nike set the terms of a possible debate. Only once has EFJ been able to publicly debate a Nike representative, but the representative (Veda Manager, who will be in the SLUH theater today at activity period) was unprepared for the encounter, as he was not told prior to appearing on the radio show what he would be talking about.

Catholic social teaching on workers' rights dates as far back as 1891, with the papal encyclical *Rerum Novarum* (On the Condition of Labor). In the encyclical, written by Pope Leo XIII, the Church clearly set out its position on the issue of workers' rights, affirming that workers have a right to unionize and the right to a living wage, two rights that are denied to Nike workers in Indonesia, which is mostly Muslim. It also stated that the work that workers do is more than a way to make money, but is "tied in with our dignity" said Christopher. As recently as 1998, Pope John Paul II affirmed social, economic, and cultural rights of workers.

"Nike is not in the business of human rights," Keady said, and further claimed that all Nike's attempts to clean up their human rights image are "reactionary. They are not proactive."

Keady and Kretzu began the presentation with a movie about their trip to Indonesia and their organization, and continued by speaking on the issue. Keady used senior John Kornfeld to help illustrate the dire straits that Indonesian workers are in. Keady put the student body in the place of the Indonesian workers by asking them what they would do—if they would take a job in a sweatshop—if the

United States' economy collapsed and their academic degrees were rendered worthless.

Keady and Kretzu normally include a second role-playing element in their presentation, one that is designed to show the injustices of the menstrual leave policy in many of Nike's outsourced factories. Since SLUH's student body is all male, they were not able to include this in their presentation.

Late in the assembly, Keady made a few critical remarks regarding SLUH's willingness to listen to Nike's side of the story. Some students, including junior Joey Mooney, disagreed with Keady's statement. Mooney felt that SLUH has made a commitment to hearing both sides of the argument. "If we haven't touched on both subjects, we haven't really argued, and haven't gotten anywhere," he said, and further theorized that perhaps Keady "probably isn't very familiar with our school and how we go about stuff like this, but it may also have something to do with his frustrations over his run-ins with Nike."

The intent of Keady's comments was to "challenge the administration" of SLUH. "I think—based on information I had gotten in the lead-up to our visit—that (the administration) bent over backwards to accommodate Nike," Keady explained in a phone interview conducted Thursday afternoon. "Given the way things are set up, Nike is going to get the last word with the guys at SLUH."

"I think that is really unfortunate," Keady continued. "Catholic social teaching demands that we give that preferential treatment to the poor." Keady stated that preferential treatment was going to "the people that ... are oppressing the poor. It's not that we were against having Nike come."

Keady cited SLUH's offer to Nike of a spot during the debate last week and said that "it says a lot about (Nike) that they chose to opt out on (the opportunity SLUH gave them)." He added, "It also shows possibly where the administration of the school was in continually offering Nike the option to opt out without a real, critical situation, like in an open, honest public

debate."

"(Keady) knew when he said that that he was lobbing a hand grenade into the audience," explained Christopher. "I think what he was trying to say was perhaps, 'Are we consistent in our desire to look at the other side of some of these moral issues?'" Keady asked whether SLUH would have brought in representatives from Planned Parenthood if the school was discussing abortion, or proponents of the death penalty if it was discussing capital punishment.

"We want students to know what Nike has to say," Keady and Kretzu's letter states.

Nike's absence has raised the eyebrows of more than a few in the SLUH community. "It raises a good question—'Why wouldn't Nike be here?'" Christopher said. "Nike came right out and they said to (Garavaglia), 'We do not want to debate with Jim and Leslie, we do not want to discuss with them; we want equal time to give our side of the story.' That's exactly what (SLUH) offered them, and they said no." According to Christopher, Nike offered to come to SLUH on any day but the day on which Educating for Justice gave their presentation.

"A number of other schools have attempted to host a debate between EFJ and Nike, and Nike has always refused," Keady and Kretzu explained in the letter. "Now (Nike) will share their information, which (EFJ) has found to be consistently misleading, and we will not be able to rebut it."

A Nike representative will be at SLUH all day today, in addition to making a presentation during activity period. "Open debate and discussion would have been ideal," Christopher stated. "It's nice that Nike is going to have a chance to reply to (Keady and Kretzu's) criticisms. In essence, what's going on is... there is a debate that's happening, but (EFJ doesn't) have a chance to rebut. And so it's a debate, but Nike has set the terms of the debate." The Nike presentation will take place during activity period in the theater.

Keady and Kretzu summed up their thoughts, saying in their letter, "We feel that, in this situation, favor has been given

DIVERSITY

(from 1)

black. It seemed like it was a lot easier for me to get to know the black kids because they felt more comfortable, having a more diverse classroom.”

Coming from a school with a significant Hispanic population, senior Sean Burk said, “There is nothing like that here at all. It is kinda like it is shocking in a way. It makes it very difficult to adjust. It seems like when you get people who kinda all come from the same background, you get a lot of the same opinions. It gets a little stale.”

Other students felt awkward when

BAUD

(from 4)

The suggestion of constructing makeshift baskets was denied because the owners of the facility feared damage to the windows by errant shots.

Imagine also that a SLUH alumnus wrote a letter to the *Prep News* referring to the basketball team’s “basically uninhibited access to the proper facilities.” This alumnus was never a part of the basketball team, never set foot on the court in question, and rarely, if ever, saw the facility.

Well, you don’t need to imagine. This is reality. Except this is not SLUH’s basketball program; it is SLUH’s water

MACHINEHEAD

(from 2)

many innovations when compared to last year’s model, the “Six Dollar Burger,” the experience the team gained from last year aided them in their second effort. Said Havlak, “We learned a lot about our drive system, which this year is very solid, but again the arm is new and the claw is new.”

The Robotics Club is primarily composed of seniors, many of whom selected senior project sites near SLUH in order to continue working on the robot during senior project, when much of the work had to be done. The underclassmen will have to work hard to keep the club going strong next year. Former ASC teacher John Shen, who returned to the team this year despite attending graduate school at Washington University, has decided to make this competition his last.

racial issues surfaced in class. President of the Advancement for Cultural Enrichment at SLUH (ACES) Dan Heard commented that he would feel awkward when his class would discuss topics relating to African Americans because, as the only African American in the classroom, he felt his classmates might not understand his perspective.

Sophomore Malcolm DeBaun agreed that he feels awkward if the teacher isn’t African American when discussing mostly African American experiences because “they are not experiencing it first hand. They experience it from talking to people or hearing about it or reading about it, but

polo program (and SLUH’s swimming and diving teams).

This is not to criticize our Athletic Director. Mr. Wehner has been unfailingly supportive of our efforts to improve Forest Park’s pool and proactive in guaranteeing our use of the pool for years to come. But Mr. Wehner also understands that this pool is far from ideal.

I have always respected Greg Donovan’s work on behalf of SLUH, even when he was a student. But I cannot allow a published comment claiming that Forest Park’s pool is a “proper (facility)” go unchecked. Like all of the programs at SLUH, athletic and otherwise, we make

Said Shen, “I underestimated how much time I spent on it last year. I was at my desk for about four periods a day, and that gave me a lot of time to get administrative stuff done.”

Shen outlined the obstacles that next year’s team would have to overcome. “They’ve got to find a new moderator next year, and funding’s going to be tough because the NASA grant runs out (after this year),” he said. NASA gave the Mr. Robotobills \$6,000 each of the two years for the entrance fee and parts.

Next year’s team aside, the current team had to face obstacles of their own this year, including knocking a hole in a basement wall. Said senior David Burghoff, “Apparently, we had the drill motors set in the highest gear, and apparently if you try to put on the brakes while

I think you can really express it accurately if you experience it first hand.”

According to junior Harold Carter, as sophomore and junior year have progressed, the number of African American students or other minorities in his classes has decreased. “Sometimes I feel even more separated because the different issues. Like for history, the issues that are brought up sometimes, you kind of feel nervous or out of place almost. When...Dr. Monahan showed us a picture of lynching and stuff, that kind of was like almost nobody else could really understand it at all.”

see RACE, 13

do with our limited resources.

So should SLUH build a pool? Absolutely not! Mike Hayes is not alone; water polo players past and present unanimously consider Forest Park an extension of our campus. The pool is flawed, poorly kept, and a bit embarrassing, but it is ours. I think the water polo players understand that, no matter how desirable and welcome a pool would be, the money required would be better spent on our faculty. Hopefully, many other SLUH students and alumni understand that as well.

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam,
Paul Baudendistel, '90

the robot is going too fast, it locks into neutral. So, the robot ended up running into the wall at about 20 miles per hour.”

However, the always optimistic Burghoff saw this as a demonstration of the robot’s strength, saying, “If that would’ve happened last year, the wall would’ve broken our robot, but this time our robot broke the wall.”

ANNOUNCEMENT

As this holy season of Lent begins, SLUH will restart its Eucharistic Adoration Program on the first Friday of every month for the remainder of the year beginning on March 5. Adoration will begin after homeroom and continue until the end of school on first Fridays. All are invited and encouraged to come and spend some time with our Lord in the Main Chapel.

(from 3)

Our links with Forest Park will be broken, and our only ties to the Science Center will be through security. Rather than being a working component of the surrounding area, it seems that SLUH will simply build taller fences.

In just a few years, SLUH will be a vastly different place. The heart of the school, now the chapel, surrounded by freshman and senior lockers and classrooms, will be relocated to somewhere along Berthold Avenue. In other words, the school will have no center. STUCO and the *Prep News* will be expected to be active components of student life, yet at the same time be isolated from more than half of the school building. Won't it be difficult to create synergism when the school is scattered across 24 acres?

Attitudes towards our school will change. For what it's worth, we will become the MICDS and CBC of all our jokes. We will be the school that spends millions of dollars on sports. SLUH will continue to be known for its academics, but that commitment could become easily overshadowed. In the student survey, SLUH's reputation ranked second highest, behind academics, among factors influencing the decision to come to SLUH; the school's new sports-oriented campus will undoubtedly affect its reputation.

Change and progress are inevitable

THREEPEAT

(from 1)

ning him all over the court. After settling down, Durban began to stage one of the greatest comebacks ever seen at a SLUH match.

After a dramatic second game victory of 15-14, Durban held on 11-9 for the shocking comeback win, and the crowd erupted.

Simultaneously, Reagan was mounting a comeback of his own, after losing the first to his DeSmet opponent 8-15. However, Reagan's outstanding endurance began to prevail in the second, as he ran his opponent all over the court, in a controlling 15-5 win. Proud of Reagan's comeback, Koestner admired that, 'He never lost his confidence or poise.'

and necessary for SLUH to continue to fulfill its mission. But a good school must follow a focused mission. How will students be expected to develop compassionate hearts and critical minds when their school spends huge amounts of

PETTIT

(from 3)

highlights of my entire life. It certainly helped Mike deal with a difficult situation. I still think God decided I should be diagnosed during the football season. You all know how much I loved SLUH football. I think He thought that had He given me cancer during the spring, I would have driven Him nuts. Getting it during football allowed me not to focus as much on what I was about to go through.

The administration has always been there for my sons and for Bev, our daughter, and me. You allowed me to stay involved in SLUH after I was diagnosed. I wish I could have done more, but as I found out, battling cancer is a very tough thing. However, you were always there to support me, and use me in any way you could.

Now for the most important part of SLUH, the students. Whether you're a current student or an alum, this is for you. I know all of you are extremely intelligent, otherwise you wouldn't have been accepted into SLUH. Your intelligence

With two seniors vying for the fourth seed state title, neither player held back anything in the tiebreaker. With four intense changes of serve, the score tied at 9-9, Reagan eventually broke through, winning 11-9.

Two amazing comeback wins had once again shifted the advantage to the Jr. Bills, and from there they began to run away with the title.

Junior Ryan Franklin explained the victory saying, "The support we received from teammates and friends drove us to play at a higher level, proving that SLUH spirit is a force to be reckoned with." Franklin, the sixth seed, demonstrated the power of SLUH spirit by handling his opponent in the final, in straight games:

money on unnecessary additions to its campus instead of serving the surrounding community, fostering outward and inward growth and awareness, and keeping the school centered, physically and spiritually, around its core values?

has allowed you not only to excel academically, but to learn about life. I know all of you have. If you find yourself using that wonderful fitness center, take time to occasionally think about my thoughts on the plaque. All of you know and, I'm sure, wholeheartedly accept the Jesuit motto "Men For Others." It's obvious to us as parents that you do understand its importance. "Live Life Everyday." Every day is a blessing from God, even when you have a tough day, and you will, count it as a blessing. You are indeed fortunate to have been given the life you were by God. Make someone else's life better, too. You have the capacity and the understanding to do that.

Although I grew up in the Northeast, I feel as though I am a part of SLUH. That is one of the true highlights of my life. I am truly honored. *I will always be a Junior Bill.*

God bless you all,
Steve Pettit

15-13, 15-8.

In similar fashion, senior number one Phil Mathews dismantled rival Becker. Koestner commented, "He came in with a game plan, and stuck with it." Hitting powerful serves and keeping center court position, Mathews quickly won 15-5, 15-6.

Finally, it was the doubles team's turn to prove why they earned the top seed in their division. Juniors Joe Lorenz and Pat Corcoran capped off their perfect, undefeated season with yet another dominant victory, winning 15-4, 15-6.

After defending the state title once again, the Dynastybills are set to travel to Portland, Oregon, next week to defend their national title.

RACE

(from 1)

“As a half-Vietnamese,” said senior Matt Paradise, “I would sort of feel the same thing when we talked about the war. I remember sophomore English somehow the Vietnam War came up and the teacher kind of singled me out and said, ‘You probably know something about that considering that your mom was from Vietnam.’ I guess it made me feel kind of uncomfortable but also at the same time a sort of pride, proud of my heritage. Like I am unique because I do have some kind of connection.”

Sophomore John Paul Johnson said that the social division outside of the classroom bothered him. “At the lunch tables, all of the African Americans tend to bind with other African Americans and go sit at African American tables instead of branching out and talking to other Caucasian students that eat with them or after school hang with them or whatever. I just think that is where the problems come in.”

Mueller next asked about students’ experiences of race in extracurricular or social settings.

STUCO Publicity/Social Commissioner Chris Baricevic guessed that people of the same race could initially make friends easier because there is no racial tension. “It has been my experience that white kids are kind of cautious when they talk to minorities sometimes because they don’t want to offend anybody, but as you get to know them in class through the years gradually it becomes more integrated. I think the classroom kind of slowly breaks down the walls of race. You get to know people a little bit better, start to talk to them outside of class, and you begin to feel more comfortable with them in conversation until eventually it doesn’t matter.”

Senior Brent Harvey agreed with Baricevic. “When I first came as a freshman, I was probably more comfortable talking with Dan (Heard). I didn’t know who he was. I didn’t know most people here at this school, but I think me and Dan clicked just because we were both black. I didn’t have a problem talking with other white kids, but it is just a little easier. As the years go by, now senior year, it is a lot

easier. I feel a lot more comfortable talking to anyone in my class just because of those relationships I have formed inside the classroom and out.”

As a member of the varsity soccer team, DeBaun felt, “After school sports teams has a lot to do in breaking the barriers, because when you are in a team and you are putting yourself out for your teammates, race has nothing to do with it. Sports gives you an instant connection, so I think that that helps a lot, along with the classroom, being in class.”

“SLUH,” said Paradise, “is my first experience having black kids in my classes, and I used to be afraid to talk to people of different races, even Asians. I was kind of shy and I think socially our school does do a fairly good job of trying to break down barriers between races. I think through what we studied in theology and what I have learned on my own about people, as just human beings that we are all called to just accept everyone and love everyone for who they are.”

Johnson has tried to ignore race when socially interacting with others and has tried to extend himself to try the different interests of his classmates. Said Johnson, “When I come to school, I want something to talk about to a lot of different people rather than going up to Malcolm and saying, ‘Hey did you see that new video?’ I want to go up to a lot of different people and have conversations. I want to interact with a lot of different people than just being segregated to my race.”

Freshman Phillip Scott had a similar experience in his homeroom. Initially, Scott tried to understand what interests his classmates pursued, and then he started to branch out into different interests because “they seemed like good people and whatever they liked I would probably be interested in because we shared some of the same common interests.”

After a brief discussion on whether or not it is difficult to keep one’s ethnic identity in a melting pot society, Paradise asked a question of his own: “Is there a problem of race at SLUH?”

A couple of students mentioned how students sometimes use inappropriate language when speaking to them.

Johnson said, “There would be plenty of cases where a Caucasian kid would come up to me and say, ‘What’s up G, What’s up, gangsta, I’m down,’ and all this other stuff. I kind of brush it off like ‘heh, heh, that is really funny’ and try to change the subject. I don’t really want to get involved. I know it is not personal.”

Scott expressed a similar experience, saying, “A lot of times people would come up to me and say, ‘What’s up, dog?’ I just told them that I am not a dog, so don’t call me dog. I go at it that way. Usually they catch on. If they say it more than once, I would explain to them I don’t like what they are saying. Then usually it doesn’t result in anything else but they stop saying whatever they are saying.”

Once, during a lockdown drill, Scott entered into a classroom with an African American friend because he had an unscheduled period. “The teacher told the other student to ‘go sit next to your boy,’ which I don’t know if he would have said that to a Caucasian student. I thought it was more like he was saying it because it was a term that you hear in hip-hop music or whatever, like my boy or my friend or whatever. I don’t know if he would have used that if it happened to someone else in the classroom.”

Burk said, “It feels like a lot of Caucasian kids feel like there is some kind of secret code that they have to talk in order to talk to African American kids. Like there is some kind of trick to it, like you can’t be yourself for some reason.”

The panel’s discussion moved to experiences at SLUH that left students with hopeful feelings about the success of diversity at SLUH and which experiences left students with despair.

Burk said, “I am not on any sports teams, but every time I look at a sports team, I think it is cool, like the fact that Tim Simon knows everybody from his sports and he talks to people regardless of race. I think that is a good thing.”

Johnson felt proud when students cheered for DeBaun at the soccer assembly because he was a good soccer player, not because he was African American. Additionally, when sophomore Darryl

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PANEL

(from 13)

Jones was voted for sophomore STUCO representative, when Johnson was voted for homeroom representative, and when fellow classmates ask him for help on homework, Johnson felt “those were moments where race wasn’t an issue. It was people who think you were the best person for the job. They think that you would be good for the position that you are running for. I thought at those moments, I guess I felt kind of proud.”

“The fact that our Dean of Students, Mr. Clark, is who he is makes me proud,” said Scott. “Just the fact that they looked at him for what he could do and not his race. It is really a big step and it is hopeful to me, just coming when I decided to come here. I had someone that I knew that would be helpful. If I had any problems I could go to him.”

DeBaun believes that every minority has some sort of encounter with prejudice, whether it be intentional or accidental. “I think that overall we feel comfortable, but I think there are always going to be slip-ups. I think that it is important to forgive and not just say, ‘Oh he slipped up so I’m never talking to him again.’ It has to be, it is really important to forgive. But not forget, though.”

In agreement, Johnson recalled a story of a friend at lunch who, in the heat of an argument, said a racial slur. As some of his friends became angry, Johnson tried to calm people down and explain the friend’s mistake. “It was a slip, he didn’t mean it out of a race thing. He wasn’t calling you out of your name or whatever. Last year, we used to say the word occasionally. I don’t want to say it was a word of endearment, but it was a word that you’re kind of used to, like calling each other ‘friend’ or something like that. But we don’t use it anymore, pretty much. I had to calm people down, like ‘He didn’t mean it as a racial thing.’ We said it so much around him that it got to that point of speaking before you think. He didn’t think, and it just came out.”

Later on, Johnson said that sometimes during freshman year, African American students would use that word, and the reading of the story *Huckleberry*

Finn sparked a heated discussion about the use of the word. He told of a heated argument with other African American students in the locker room about the use of racial slurs with each other. “The discussion was like, ‘Why do we use that word? Especially at a place it was said so often, where other people, other Caucasians would start saying it and we can get offended.’”

According to Johnson, at one point in the locker room discussion, a white student came in, and one of Johnson’s friends asked him, ‘If we told you to say the n-word, would you feel comfortable saying it?’ And the kid said, ‘Yes, because I say it all the time at home.’” When Johnson still refused to be convinced, Johnson’s friend said, “All right, say the word,” and the student said it. Johnson said, “There was no hesitation. He said it. Then I guess, he stayed there for a couple of minutes, and I felt this chill there, like it slipped out so easily. There was no hesitation, no, ‘I am not supposed to say this.’ He immediately said it. From that day, I felt kind of different about what I said that because I guess that word has a history or whatever.”

Although he knows that some people have prejudices against African Americans, Johnson also feels anger towards African Americans who fail to see past racial stereotypes. “They say real ignorant things, like sometimes they will say something prejudiced and I’ll look at them crazy and I would say something. Then they would say, ‘Aw, that is payback for 400 years of this’ and laugh about it, like it was nothing. Sometimes I have to explain it to them, ‘OK, now what if a Caucasian person said the opposite to you? You would be ready to wring their neck.’ Sometimes they don’t understand that, and if they do understand that, sometimes they will be just real ignorant about it. Those are the low points.”

Carter said, “It almost seems like one of those sad truths like in your lifetime, there is always going to be the issue of racism. At least that is the way that I see it. It is always going to be that issue of racism, and it is one of those things that

sooner or later you are going to have to just face it.”

In the future, Baricevic believes that equality will slowly happen because kids are taught equality and acceptance from a young age. “We are really lucky because we are going through a generation where it is becoming more and more evident that it is a problem and acceptance is the right thing to do, whereas our grandparents and a lot of our parents came from a segregated society.”

At the end of the discussion, the panel was opened up to questions the students had wanted to talk about but were not covered in the posed questions. Baricevic said, “I was kind of interested, from a minority view, if there were any major issues where it has come up. Because me personally, I haven’t dealt with it at SLUH, but I am not naive enough to say that they don’t exist. They are just not at the forefront all the time.”

DeBaun said, “I think it is (one) thing that most people really don’t talk about, but getting people’s names right. You know, like not confusing me for another black person. It happens more often than you think. It has happened so bad that in two of my classes, I have gotten extra credit points because they have called me somebody else. I think that really needs to be worked on. I think that this needs to be worked on because I almost feel insulted that you don’t want to differentiate me from any other person that is black.”

One of the closing comments had to do with friends and how they have changed. Heard said, “Obviously coming into a new environment you are going to make a lot of new friends. So I say, like now, I mean I am still friends with people before I came here, but I guess my group of friends got bigger and more diverse. Since SLUH is more diverse than the environment I grew up in, I am friends with more diverse people than I was before. I guess because of that I am more open to becoming friends with a more diverse group of people.”

The panel ended because people needed to leave, and Mueller thanked the panel for their honesty and their time.

SENIOR PROJECT REFLECTION

Chaplain of Christ: Barnes-Jewish Hospital

Matthew Paradise
Reporter

I worked in the Spiritual Care Services at Barnes-Jewish hospital for my Senior Project. While meeting with Fr. Anthony Agbali, Fr. Jim Gray, and Cora Tomeldan several times in October to plan what I would do, they recognized a certain spiritual quality about me and proposed that I spend a part of my project as a Eucharist Minister. This, at first, shocked me. But I said, Sure. That was easy. Giving people Communion. Doesn't take much, does it? All I have to do is say, "The body of Christ." Right?

I had no idea what I was getting myself into. Cora gave me my official training. As we visited patients together the first week, she taught me that I had to knock first, wash my hands, and explain to patients that I was a Catholic Eucharistic Minister. She taught me what prayers to say and when. She taught me how to genuflect before the tabernacle every time I approached it and how to properly put the pyx (what holds the Communion) into my shirt pocket.

Cora treated each piece of Communion as if it was sacred, or the body of Jesus himself, in the flesh. Carefully, she would open her pyx, take out a single piece of host, and touching it on the very edge, hold it up. For her, it was a treasure. And she bowed her head to it as if she was unworthy to touch it. Since she grew up in a pre-Vatican II religious culture, she felt she wasn't allowed to be a Eucharistic Minister because it was traditionally a priest's job. But she felt called to do it anyway, and her devotion to the Eucharist overrode this fear of touching it. Carrying the Eucharist, or "Jesus" as she called it, became her job.

Much of the Filipino culture is based on a conservative Catholic tradition. Their devotion to God is centered on the belief that He is deeply and intimately involved with His creation. Compared to our society's academic tradition of reasoning, the Filipino culture seems quaint. Cora had a collection of hundreds of Saint cards in piles throughout her office and encouraged me to trust in their intercession. She wanted me to trust in Mary's power as the Mother of God, and really dedicate myself to Him. She believed that miracles are possible as long as our faith is deep enough, but I still was not convinced. I initially believed that she was one of those people who believed, for example, that if you bathed in certain waters you would be healed. A radical person

who missed the essentials of faith.

However, as I got to know her more closely, I realized that her religion and faith transformed her daily actions. She devoted at least one complete rosary to Mary daily and always asked the Saints for help. She loved going to Mass on Wednesdays and Fridays. She loved her work as a Spiritual Care volunteer. Cora did not get paid for her work. She would get to the hospital at eight and stay until four every day. She worked so much, she had to wait to clock in and out, because it was illegal to volunteer so much time. She spent the entire day visiting patients, ministering Communion, believing wholeheartedly in Jesus' absolute presence in it. And she never has bothered to rationalize it. She simply believes. I know that she is not naive or uneducated because she has earned several medical degrees in various fields, with solid expertise in microbiology.

There was one woman, I'll call her Katherine, in the chemo ward who one day seemed perfectly healthy and took Communion. I was comfortable enough to visit her again the next day, but having had chemo, she was shaking uncontrollably. She could barely speak, and still wanted to receive Communion. She was in pain all throughout her body, in utter discomfort, and desired to eat that small piece of host.

I understand now that for Katherine, partaking in Communion was an opportunity for healing. Obviously, the Eucharist doesn't hold any medicinal or magical properties. Just as people can't be magically healed by bathing in certain waters, the Eucharist guarantees no promise of physical healing. However, it does promise spiritual healing, which unlike medicine does not automatically fix pain, a healing that requires the receiver to respond with faith. Thus, much of the power in the Eucharist comes from believing that it has power. It not merely a psychological effect, but an invitation to the power of the human spirit and will. Katherine wanted to receive the Eucharist because she simply believed in its power.

Another patient that I gave Communion to stayed at Barnes for chemotherapy for about the same duration of my Project. I got to know Joe (not his real name) pretty well after seeing him almost every day for almost two weeks. He nearly died the first time I met him. His doctors gave him too much chemo. He had convulsions and headaches and almost became permanently paralyzed. When he recovered, he let me listen to him. I would sometimes stay for more than thirty minutes while he told me about his life: how his dad committed suicide after his mom and

see PARADISE, 16



by Tim Huether

Calendar

Feb. 27-Mar. 5

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

V BB @ District Tourn. @ SLUH
NHS Bowling Fundraiser

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Family Mass @ 9:30am

MONDAY, MARCH 1

Schedule R
Soph. Class Mtg.
IM Junior BB (M206) vs. Faculty All Stars

SAC Mtg. @ 7pm
Fiestadas and Taco Salad

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

Schedule R
Soph. Bonus Rdg.
Pro-Life Club Mtg.
Young Republicans Club Mtg.
First Aid Class @ 5:30-7pm
Pizza Sticks, Taco Sticks, and Chicken Strips

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

Schedule R
Sr. Class Lit.
Fr. Eng. Tutorial
Jr. Class Rep. Mtg.
Wrestling Banquet
College Visits:
University of Missouri-Columbia
V BB @ State Sectionals
Seasoned Fries, Crisпитos and Burritos

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

Schedule R
National Latin Exam
Senior Tux Reservations
College Visits:
University of Missouri-Kansas City
Cheese Garlic Bread, Spaghetti, and Bread Sticks

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

Schedule R
Fast Friday
IM Senior BB (M114) vs. Faculty All Stars
Senior Tux Reservations
Wellness Club Mtg.
Sno-Ball
Art Club Field Trip @ 3pm
Bosco Sticks, Fish Sticks, and Mac and Cheese

PARADISE

(from 15)

brother died of leukemia; how every year he goes deep-sea fishing and treats his neighbors to a fish fry; how his daughter doesn't like her step-dad; and how he doesn't like her boyfriend.

Joe was not a religious type of person, but he did believe in God. He wore a cross around his neck and wanted to receive Communion every time I came. Even when he was on the verge of dying from the same thing that killed his family, he did not give up his faith. He embraced the opportunity for healing, hoping that the little piece of Communion could bring that physical and spiritual healing for him. Because he believed in it and allowed it to heal him, he did. He left the hospital the third week of Project, almost completely recovered from the chemo.

I was brought to Joe through the Eucharist. I was also brought to many other people through it. At first, I was afraid to visit them on my own, but I had to change. I had to believe that the patients wanted me there. I had to build confidence in myself. I had to learn how to

listen and respond with the right words. I so much wanted to know at times what to *do*, how to fix the patients' problems. In every case, there was nothing I could do. All I could do was be a Spiritual Care volunteer. I had to realize that I was *doing* nothing but giving a precious gift. As a Eucharistic Minister, I was a beacon of hope and love. It was through Jesus that I received the confidence and personality needed to love my patients. Even though, as Joe noted, I was only seventeen, I was *doing* something special. I brought him and the others an invitation to God's healing and love through shared faith and love.

The Gospels tell us that two thousand years ago, a man named Jesus, who although he was completely human, claimed to be the Son of God and so offered humanity a new covenant with God, His Father, in the Eucharist. He offered Himself to save all of mankind from sin and death. This was Hope in its most real form — a promise of eternal life. Just as there is no possibility of life without God, there is no hope without the

Eucharist, which embodies the new covenant made by Jesus. The Church teaches that the Eucharist is the physical manifestation (not just a symbol) of God's/Jesus' love for us. It is His love, freely given for us to eat—for us to chew and swallow and digest. In this way, in this *Communion*, God physically enters into each of us and the physical *union* is completed between God and creation. The spiritual dimension of God becomes a physical reality. We share in God's life and love. There is no real life or love without this Communion.

Still, the question remains: How can God be present in pieces of bread? I don't know. But I do know that there is power in this sacrament—power that comes from believing He is. God is present in the Eucharist only if each person believes He is. And once the host itself is spiritually sacred in belief, then it becomes physically sacred. It becomes a manifestation of God's love, just as Jesus, as the Messiah, intended to be for God's people. We just have to accept it, take it in, and allow it to become real.