

News: Monday Madness induces unbridled outburst of fun; cancelled indefinitely, *page 7*

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Prep News

"If nothing else, value Pepsi—the cola"

VOLUME LXVIII ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL, THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2004 SPECIAL ISSUE

Science Center announces expansion *St. Louis U. High purchased, will relocate*

The Tramp Millionaire

The St. Louis Science Center has recently announced major plans to expand its facilities eastward and has begun buying plots of land currently occupied by St. Louis U. High School, a local Jesuit institution sitting on 15 highly-valued acres on Oakland Avenue. The proposals are part of the Science Center's Delusion 3000 campaign to further rededicate themselves to their dedication to the understanding of science and technology in the community.

Science Center Guy Bill Nye said, "For the past few years we've spent a lot of money to fix up the Planetarium, make new exhibits, and show better Omnimax

films. But now that that's out of the way, we can build. I mean really build. This place is going to be friggin' huge by the time we're done with it!" Nye exclaimed. He then explained that competing science museums in Chicago cover roughly 50 acres, whereas the St. Louis Science Center owns only 20 acres.

With the new expansions, Nye hopes

they can draw tourists from other cities to visit St. Louis. "It's really the city that benefits from all this," he said.

Recognizing SLUH's long-standing reputation in St. Louis' educational history, the Science Center has arranged to relocate the

Backer Memorial onto its recently acquired land at the corner of Kingshighway see **EXPANDING, 4**

Communists stage coup in chapel *School colors changed to crimson and scarlet*

Member of Parliament Bringin' Da Funk

During lunch last Friday, the St. Louis U. High Young Democratic Socialist club staged a highly unexpected coup d'etat in the chapel. This marks SLUH's first flirtation with a Communist regime since the Great Depression (but let's face it, who didn't entertain Communist thoughts in the midst of the country's direst depression?).

Democratic Socialist Spiritual Leader Jeff Harrison, S.J. explained the strategy behind the coup. "Well, we chose the chapel for a couple of reasons," he said. "One, we struck during a Fast Friday lunch last week to ensure that the chapel

would be empty. And two, I've been secretly posing as a priest for the last 20 years or so, thus giving me an easy access to the chapel."

Said one conservative student, "These crazy, long-haired hippies have totally spit in the face of God by using the chapel as a preaching place. Ask yourself, 'What would Jesus do?' Would he walk around in sandals with long hair and a scraggly hippie beard preaching a crazy message of peace and equality? I don't think so!"

A spokeswoman for the Democratic Socialists objected to the negative stereotype the club has earned. "It is ludicrous to equate democratic socialism with Communism. The two are as different as the see **BIG RED, 6**



SLUH will have to cancel some of its expansion plans, including a campus general store connected to the theater

Sciuto boasts perfect "review helpfulness"

Charles Foster Citizen

On May 20, 1999, St. Louis U. High theology teacher Matt Sciuto began toiling over a detailed review of *The Vernon Johns Story* (1994) on Amazon.com. Five years and 87 words later, Sciuto has maintained a perfect rating with 14 of 14 people citing the review as "helpful."

"You know, when I wrote that review, I never thought that I would find this much success. But then again, there's that 007 movie called *Never Say Never Again* on this," Sciuto said. He then added that he would be blocking off a week of class see **AMAZON, 3**

PN Editor in Chief leaves office, sees his shadow

Flapjack McPants Third Hand of Death

Although they have not yet been confirmed, rumors have recently surfaced that several members of the St. Louis U. High *Prep News* have been seen outside of their office in the Jesuit wing of the building. The rumors recently gained more notoriety this week when junior Billy Mumphrey produced photographic evidence of *PN* Editor in Chief Brian Kane in the upper field.

Much to his dismay, the pictures that Mumphrey took were blurred and distorted during the developing process. "I swear, man, it was totally him. He moved like a big hairy ape," he said.



The true identity of the figure seen in this picture has not yet been confirmed, but it is highly suspected to be Kane.

Until the figure in the pictures is officially confirmed as Kane, Mumphrey has taken the liberty of dubbing the creature "The Lumbering LummoX."

Citing reasons of embarrassment, Kane has locked himself in the *PN* office until the situation is forgotten. *PN* Sports Editor W. David Mueller spoke on behalf of the newspaper. "This is all a bunch of jibberish. Anyone who thinks that Kane was involved in that in any way, shape, or form, is clearly ignoring the facts," he said in defense of Kane. "Our office has internet access, a refrigerator, couches, and not one but two dry erase boards. Do you honestly believe

that Brian Kane would leave that comfort zone?!"

Mumphrey's photos have also

brought suspicion upon *PN* Moderator Steven Q. Missey. Sophomore Richard Saltzman said, "Sure, you see Missey around, but he's always wearing the exact same thing—khaki pants, brown shoes, and a white Oxford. I doubt he ever even goes home. That's what that office does to people, it sucks them in and they never come back." When this reporter informed Saltzman that Missey will occasionally mix things up with corduroys or a blue shirt, Saltzman replied, "Just who's side are you on, anyway?"

The one thing that may save Missey from further scrutiny is the fact that he can rarely be found in either the *Prep News* office or his desk in the English department. "I had to make up a quiz for (Missey) and he told me that he'd either be in the *Prep News* office or the English department during activity period. I spent the whole period looking for him, and he didn't show up until the last three minutes," said junior Ian Hamilton.

The *Prep News* will be taking a hiatus for the remainder of the year until the controversy surrounding Mumphrey's pictures subsides.

Controversy brews over vending discrimination

Jose Arcadio Big

Since the debut of the diabolical desecrated dispensers, vending machines have demonstrated their dislike of Differentbills at St. Louis U. High through unjust discrimination against crumpled, frumpled, bent, crushed, washed, dusty, or musty bills. This year, however, the vending machines particularly strove to isolate these bills by openly rejecting such bills during public activities such as athletic events, dances, and theater productions, claiming that they only want Straightbills.

The vending machines have always discriminated against "imperfect" bills, but this year, the vending machines have openly rejected any sort of bill with any sort of imperfection. Instead of accepting the bill politely and civilly, the machines prefer to spit the bills out with an annoy-

ing whirl, leaving it dangling out of the bill acceptor, hurt and humiliated. These actions initiated an outburst of rage from the Imperfect Bill Community (IBC).

"We are the same worth as any other bill," said FR47797511A, the chair bill of IBC. "Just because we don't come from caring hands does not mean that we are any less of a bill."

When we get spit back out, we feel like we are nothing, as if we grew on trees," said HD52577435B. "But no, man. I came from Denver—you don't see many trees in Denver.

"Our condition isn't some self-induced choice nor are we fully a product of our environment. All bills have some sort of discrepancy, and as a reflection of this

we all turn out differently," HD52577435B said.

The vending machines, however, defend their actions of discrimination by calling it "quality control," accord-



An imperfect bill is crushed in the face of discrimination.

ing to 16RCC—2004 of the Vending Machines of America (VMA).

"I mean, I get complaints from my members such as '(Those bills) get my see STRAIGHT BILLS, 4

AMAZON

(from 1) time in his senior morality classes to show the Bond movie in full so all his students could learn the inspiring message of the movie's title.

Sciuto was the first person to post a review of the video on Amazon's site, which made his task all the more daunting. "I really had to put some thought into this. I mean, being the first person to write a review for a video? That's a really tough moral issue, on this," he said, "but in the end I wound up paving the way for three other people to write their reviews, on this. Metanoia, that's all there is to it."

Principal Mary Schenkenberg praised Sciuto's efforts. "The school really owes a debt of gratitude to Tom Sciuto. He's an accomplished physics teacher, and it looks like now he's an accomplished web reviewer, too," Schenkenberg chuckled. "We just have such a wonderful staff here at SLUH."

Sciuto's perfect rating of review helpfulness makes his review the best of the four that Amazon.com lists for the video. Though hal1956 from New Jersey also has a perfect rating, his is the product of only four other users. Sciuto explained, "You have to understand, it's one thing to have a perfect record when only four people give feedback. But 14? That's almost unheard of. Hal1956 still has a long way to go before he's in my league...on this." Hal1956's review was written on January 23, 2002, therefore giving him less time to receive feedback. "I guess it just shows you that there's nothing like the original," Sciuto said. He added, "On this."

Sciuto's theory holds true when applied to Amanda of Boston, the most recent of the four Vernon Johns Story reviewers.

Since posting her review, which she titled "Best Civil Rights Film," on June 4, 2002, only one of four people have found it helpful. Sciuto commented, "She obvi-

ously didn't put much reflection into that review. 'This film really taps into the mind of the viewer'? What was she thinking? On this?!"

Sciuto also mocked the length of Amanda's review, which was only 35 words long.

The road to Sciuto's current status was not easy, however. Kenneth A. Davis of

Johnston, South Carolina posted a review of the video on April 15, 2001. Davis' review was the first to follow Sciuto's, and also held a perfect rating for quite



Sciuto enjoys a sammich while checking his review's rating.

Upturned collars increase coolness, warmth

But the other day, the AC kicked in while I was sleeping during English class. What I didn't realize was that the extra two inches of knit hoiness covering the lower part of my neck protected me from getting cold and waking up (which is a good thing, because I get cranky when I get woken up during English). In addition to protecting me from the cool air, it helps regulate my body heat by providing a narrow vent through which the cool air passes and cools my superheated (and buff) chest. You feel what I'm saying? While I look totally boss in my pastel lavender A&F collared shirt when the collar is up and it isn't tucked in in the back (that is, unless Mr. Clark is reading this), I'm also quite comfortable despite the fact that it's uncomfortably tight. It's odd how something as simple and cool as wearing my collar up can make me comfortable in any type of temperature, but it can. I highly recommend it to the uncool and those who are either hot or cold.

Keep chillin', P. Ashton MacMillian, IV

To the Editor: Call me a trend setter (I was, after all, the seventh person at my lunch table to get a pair of Birkenstock clogs). Call me a stud (got on this really hot chick last Friday). Call me a jock (I play rugby). But more than that, call me a genius: I found out that, in addition to being extremely cool and fashionable, wearing your shirt collar up is climatologically correct. I originally started putting my collar up a while ago not only because the cool guys in the J. Crew catalog do it (don't worry, I still like chicks), but also because all of my cool friends did it. I ran out to Abercrombie and bought a bunch of sweet pastel pinks, greens, and purples and popped the collar as I got out of my car the next morning. Next thing I know, my celly's ringing off the hizzook with girls wantin' to get with me.

I normally don't do anything beyond the bare minimum, but I am passionate about this. Please put this in the Prep News when it comes out next Wednesday, or whenever you guys give it to us. -PAM, IV

VENDING

(from 2)

gears stuck and I cannot function properly with any change from the norm,” said 16RCC—2004.

“It holds up the line, not facilitating optimal product-dispense,” explained 16RCC—2004. “It is really annoying when bills attempt to straighten themselves on the corner of my body. It is violating my personal space.”

“I am just a vending machine and I just do my job,” said 90CCC—1973, a longstanding member of VMA. “If they don’t like it, they should straighten themselves out. Geez, what the hell is the world coming to??”

In the past, the VMA has not had a good record for acceptance, tolerance, and understanding. For example, there are reports that annually 1,147 people have died from vending machines falling on them after trying to shake the vending machine in order to dislodge the product that they have purchased from the intestines of the machines. Also, earlier in the year, the VMA sent out a bulletin to prohibit the use of any sort of coin aside from the traditional American nickels, dimes, and quarters. These bulletins were posted ostentatiously for all coins to see.

Responding to the fatalities, 16RCC—2004 said, “Well, what do you expect? You should not shake them. I mean do you like to be shaken? Geez.

What did Jesus teach? Like, ‘What you do for the least of my people you do for me.’ Do you get what I mean? It isn’t really our fault. Instead of trying to shake us, why don’t you buy some more? As far as the coins go, I mean, we don’t want your pennies. Like, what did Stalin say, ‘If you want to be the best, forget the rest.’ How can you expect us to take something that nobody else wants? As far as casino coins and foreign coins—especially those damn foreign coins—they can just go back to where they came from.”

In response to this unjustifiable discrimination, the administration and the SLUH community have taken proactive measures to combat further discrimination.

“This isn’t necessarily not that much of a non-issue in this specific general context,” said President Paul Sheridan, S.J. “We must remember that all bills are worth the same in the economic side of God’s eyes, regardless of their intent. Intrinsic goodness is what I like to say.” Sheridan paused, and then he continued, “However, you better watch out for those Canadian things. What are they, the tooneys? That is weird.”

Jeff Harrison, S.J., said, “I don’t see why bills can’t be accepted for their worth, not their size, shape, folding, curling, or whatever. In my opinion, the vending machines should definitely try to under-

stand the condition of imperfect bills. They should strive to listen more about the problems and insecurities of these bills.”

The administration and the SLUH community has taken rigorous action against such harsh criticism: ACES held a mixer/car-wash to promote awareness of unhealthy rejection of imperfect bills. The Diversity Team held a prayer service. SLUH acquired books in the library. Vending machines are going through occupational therapy. All rejected bills are getting psychological counseling.

EXPANSION

(from 1)

and Manchester Ave., across from the Amoco station.

SLUH’s leaders are generally pleased with the Science Center’s decision. “We’ve always had a great relationship with the Science Center. They’re handing us a great deal, and we’re still going to further dedicate ourselves to the city now, only from a much, much smaller plot of land,” said President Paul Sheridan, S.J.

However, Sheridan was still dismayed that SLUH’s relocation will offset the Vision 2000 expansions. “I thought we had all our bases covered,” he said, “but the Science Center managed to one-up us this time. 3000, it’s so simple. Maybe if we had named our plans Vision 3007, or Vision Infinity, we’d still be here.”

Vice President for Advancement Thom Digman remained optimistic about the situation, saying, “Are we going to have to abandon this place where we have 80 years of family and tradition? Sure, but the Science Center is paying us more than our property value, so we can’t complain.”

Nye explained that the new expansions will greatly enhance the Center’s mission to spread the joy of science to the community. “They’ve got some great facilities over at that school. There’s this really big open room right in the middle with these great skylights that’s going to be great for storage,” he said. “That’ll free up a lot of room in our main building for better exhibits.”

SECURITY GUARD JOYRIDES; CART FOUND ON MANCHESTER



Late last Thursday night, St. Louis U. High’s security guard Aldophus Winthrop got, according to his testimony, “a wee bit antsy,” sitting at his post. At around 11:30 p.m., Winthrop drove his golfcart up Berthold, took a left onto East Rd., and proceeded to drive west down Manchester Ave.

Three hours later but just a quarter-mile further down Manchester, he and the idling cart were discovered by police three blocks west, stopped against the Ace Metal Company’s front office. According to the police report, Winthrop had started driving back to SLUH but had “fallen asleep at the wheel.”

Alyward leads students on high-seas hijinks

Big H. Eric Clark chaperones

Max Plank Walker Lookout

For the past decade, history teacher Steve Alyward has requested a field trip to Europe and the ancient world for an interactive history experience. Four months ago the crew of Alyward's sophomore Global II classes and his senior AP modern European History class broke a bottle on the ship Alyward affectionately named *Atilla*.

Upon finding out he could actually go, Alyward wasted no time buying a caravel with the money he had saved for his third trip to Rome. Alyward then said he had no trouble picking his first mate, Assistant Principal of Student Affairs, Dean of Students, and Assistant Principal for Student Welfare H. Eric Clark.

"I have always respected Clark," said Alyward. "He has always commanded respect, his smile is irresistible, and I knew he would look damn good in an 'S' sailor shirt."

Alyward admitted considering English teacher Rich Moran for his joviality and general good spirits. However, he chose Clark for his ability to stay on topic.

At first Alyward wasn't sure how he would store food for the voyage, but eventually he settled on hiring the cafeteria staff for their "experience and edibility."

Sophomore Joseph d'Holbach said, "The four month trip was pretty neat. Captain Alyward didn't

make us bathe the whole time. This one time I cracked a cannon while we reenacted pillaging the Ivory Coast and he didn't get mad or anything. He just brought me into the captain's quarters and talked to me nicely about how to replace the

busted cannon. He was a real sweetie."

"It was awesome," said senior Renoir Bonapart, who is not in any of Alyward's classes. "I couldn't wait 'til he said, 'Man the deck!' and when he did I was like, 'Yeah, I'll man that deck.' I was like a real sailor."

One of the more exciting parts of the trip was when the group stumbled upon the Fountain of Youth. Everybody drank, but Alyward, being the eldest, had the most noticeable change.

"The fountain was my favorite part of the trip," said sophomore William the Silent. "Then, after we all had our fill, the captain got all wierd. He started ranting about the possibility of the fountain 'falling into the wrong hands of some baboon of a president' and then he

neutralized it. He poisoned the fountain of youth with our cafeteria food, and he ate the map we used to get there."

Alyward also lectured onboard during quiet patches of the voyage on everything from the Crusades to the illegitimacy explosion of the early nineteenth century in England.

"The lectures were okay," said sophomore Newton Tull. "Early on in the trip we just fumbled with some rope in our

hands, but later we really started to come to enjoy them. He's pretty funny, and it's better than mopping the deck."

Senior Otto von Malthus said, "I can't believe he actually gave us tests and made us write a research paper! I didn't sign up

for that."

According to several shipmates who wish to remain anonymous, thoughts of a mutiny began to arise on the Mediterranean,

but Alyward quelled them with the pleasures of plundering Sardinia.

"It was my second trip to Sardinia," said Alyward. "The first time was a little more real for me. You know, I didn't have a crew that I had to show a good time or anything."

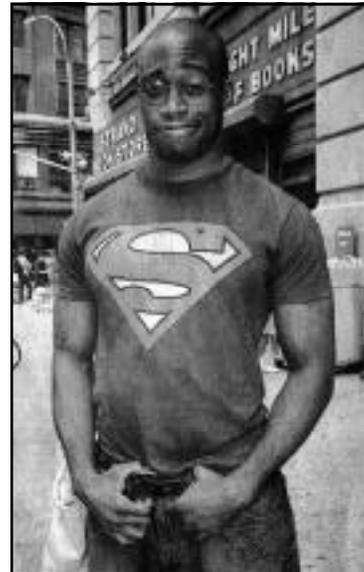
One such shipmate said, "Guys were getting a little restless and we

thought about throwing him overboard, but I got this really cool locket for my mom in Sardinia. So I kind of trusted in him after that."

Senior Alexander Charlemagne recalls a touching moment of the trip, "The whole crew had this really bad case of the Monday's, and Captain Alyward told us to take the afternoon off. He mopped the deck and raised the sails for us.... He was also really great about it when those sophomores died of malnutrition."

"Overall," Alyward said, "I'd say the trip was a success. I had to fail a few guys, but it was a great time, and I think the guys enjoyed it."

The "Crew," as they wish to be called from now on, returned to SLUH earlier this week with a new understanding of history, and, according to Alyward, "nice, scraggly, bourgeois hair." They met in the chapel yesterday to recall their experiences and talk them out. The meeting proved to be a great success as the crew closed the ceremony with a riveting rendition of "Oh Captain, My Captain!"



Clark, the group's ruggedly cool chaperone.



Post-Fountain of Youth Alyward.

BIG RED

(from 1)

Democratic and Republican parties in the U.S. For example, President Bush is against gay marriage, while presumed Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry is against gay marriage. They're totally different."

The Democratic Socialists have started new practices that have transformed the chapel into a place that students want to avoid at all costs.

Said a student who had just seen *The Passion of the Christ* a 666th time, "You know what those dumpster-diving Trotskyites are doing now in the chapel? They're passing out stale little pieces of bread and cheapo wine, possibly '30 dime wine for \$2.99' from Dirt Cheap. And then they have the gall to pass around a plate to collect donations for their crummy cause. That kind of behavior does not belong in the chapel. Jesus Christ! It's gotta be breaking a commandment or something."

In order to spread the revolution, the Democratic Socialists have extended their tentacles to form a satellite bloc in the STUCO office and "work"room. They also plan on soon attempting to carve out a sphere of influence in the cafeteria, although the table they have their hearts set on "belongs" to the football team. Domino theory, anyone?

One student complained about the power shift in the old STUCO office and "work"room, saying, "This is just another example of your typical Commie double-talk. They claim the offices are open to everyone, but I always see the same ten or fifteen people in there. That never used to happen when STUCO was in charge."

Fear not, lovers of democracy, because STUCO, that eternal bastion of liberty, is still fighting for a government of the people, by the people, for the people. In the grand tradition of the members of the National Assembly in revolution-era France, who pledged their famous Oath of the Tennis Court, STUCO has set up an underground government that meets by the much balleyhooed bubble hockey table.

The cogs of the democratic machine are swiftly in motion. STUCO has already held an extremely well-attended forum around the bubble hockey table at which it passed two important resolutions. The first resolution stated that STUCO is now to be officially referred to as STUKIZZAL, and the second officially declared that the Democratic Socialists' chapel coup was "skeet."

The recent events have caused sweeping schoolwide changes, causing some students to recoil in fear from the Big Red Menace. Said one calm, level-headed

Young Republican, "You can see signs of a growing totalitarian state all over the place, and its all the fault of these Commies. All of a sudden, there are security cameras all over the place watching our every move. Also, they're randomly closing off streets by the parking lot and putting up gates all over the place. That's totally unnecessary when you consider the crack security squad we've got here. George W. Bush himself couldn't defend our school better. They've turned SLUH into a police state, what with their random lockdowns and all. Code Red, dude, Red!

"Ooh, ooh, and now all of a sudden we're a SLUH 'community' or even worse, a SLUH 'family.' If that's not Communism, I don't know what is. As any student of history knows, the hallmark of a totalitarian state is that it controls every aspect of the lives of its citizens, which is exactly what these Commies are trying to do with their Student Life Center. They want students to be under their control all the time. They've even brainwashed Sheridan, man. The Reds have got him saying that we should spend all our free time here."

When asked how life would be different under the control of the Young Republicans or the Young Democrats (if any), our Young Republican friend responded, "Well, it wouldn't really be any different at all, but at least we'd have our freedom."

INFOGRAPHIC: NEW SCIENCE CENTER PROPOSALS



An aerial photo provided by Fox 2 News illustrates the future uses of the SLUH campus.

- 1: Storage
- 2: Expanded Three-Floor Einstein's Cafe
- 3: "The Moon: It's Better than Cable" Exhibit, complete with Moon Bounce
- 4: "Ye Olde-Time Killing Machine: Killing Without Bullets" Exhibit, with Catapult Demonstration Zone
- 5: "Kent Kershenski Memorial Particle Accelerator"
- 6: "Critters of the Night!" (Bats, opossums, owls, polar bears, lightning bugs, raccoons, cicadas, etc.) Exhibit

