

Prep News



"If nothing else, value the truth"

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ISSUE 14

216c evacuated; floor to be repaired over Xmas break

Denis Agniel
Editor

Door closed, lights off, room 216c lay dormant for the latter part of Wednesday afternoon and all of Thursday. After freshman-sophomore lunch on Dec. 11, Assistant Principal for Student Affairs Eric Clark closed the doors of 216c until an architect could be called in.

Why would the room, home of four of Miriam Aliste's Spanish classes and two of Mark Tychonievich's Latin classes, need an architect?

"I was walking in the hall upstairs

during the normal lunch period time," explained Clark, "when I walked past 216c. There were two young men in there wrestling, so I went in there to tell them to stop. As I walked in, I stepped in and the floor sunk; basically, it went down. So that was a concern."

Clark asked the students if they had noticed the depression of the floor, and in response they pointed out "maybe three or four" other spots, said Clark. He thought, "Oh, this is a problem."

He was less worried about the various spots around the room. "The thresh-
see CAVE, 6

CBC, Chaminade go high-tech

The pros and cons of educational technology

Geoff Brusca
Editor

Because CBC is moving to a new building next year, their administration has decided to implement widespread technological innovations. These include giving new laptops to students on a lease-to-own basis, new chalkboards which would transfer teachers' board notes directly to students' computers, presentations interactive with students' computers, and a bevy of other new systems which would make learning centered more around the computers that all students would have.

Other St. Louis Catholic private schools, like Chaminade and St. Joseph Academy, are also considering making

rapid technological progress by integrating computers into everyday class work, and this proliferation has SLUH's administration considering the possibility of computer-based change in the near future.

"The technology committee is in the process of surveying what the technology is at SLUH right now, what faculty would like to have, and if there's anything they'd like to do in their teaching that they can't do right now because they don't have certain technology," said Principal Mary Schenkenberg.

"We're in the seeing-what-we-want phase, more of an assessment phase," said computer consultant Tim Rittenhouse.

Right now, students can access computers at school only in the computer lab
see PU, 13

ACSA meets to discuss hockey conduct, bullying, sleep

Matt Hoffman
Editor in Chief

Assistant Principal for Student Affairs Eric Clark kicked off the second Advisory Committee for Student Affairs (ACSA) meeting of the year at precisely 7:00 on Monday, Dec. 10. The subjects for the night were conduct at hockey games, bullying, and sleep deprivation. Approximately 45 students, teachers, and parents attended.

"From my understanding, the behavior this year has been pretty good (at the hockey games)," said Clark, who has not attended any games this year. In past years there were problems with student conduct at games, including inappropriate cheers and student drinking. Clark added, "There have been some incidents."

Senior Tom Queathem started out the conversation for the third ACSA meeting in a row by calling student conduct at hockey games "absolutely despicable." Queathem pointed out drinking, yelling at parents, and yelling at individual players. "I can't go anymore...It was not really what the SLUH goals or mentality was," said Queathem.

While McMahill did not endorse behavior at hockey games, he did point out one bright side. Said McMahill, "I think spirit is better than at any other sporting
see SO I MARRIED AN ACSA MURDERER, 6

STUCO drive set to bring Christmas joy

**Greg Fox
Reporter**

This year, students' Christmastime donations will be going to a newer and needier cause. The Bosnian Drive, which was extremely successful in the past, has been replaced with the Beyond Housing Drive. The Beyond Housing Drive will still work with St. Pius Parish and is still based in individual homerooms, but because the needs of the community have changed, so has the Christmas drive at SLUH.

Last year's Bosnian Drive worked with St. Pius Church to help 40 Bosnian families who had recently immigrated here. The families were evenly divided among the 40 homerooms; students brought in items to "try to accommodate whatever needs (the families) might have," according to STUCO moderator and drive coordinator Brock Kesterson.

"We met up here... and the students in the homerooms (got) together and (took) all the goods...over to the houses," Kesterson says of past drives.

Due to its success, the Bosnian Drive has outgrown its main purpose of alleviating the needs of local Bosnian families. Kesterson was "still a little unclear" on why the Bosnian Drive was replaced, but it is mostly because St. Pius "simply (doesn't) have the needs for the aid of Bosnian families this year." As a result of the Sept. 11 attacks and the ensuing immigration crackdown, there is a much smaller number of Bosnian families immigrating to St. Louis.

CSP moderator Sue Walsh was approached earlier this year by Beyond Housing, a not-for-profit organization that has been helping needy families in St. Louis since 1980.

"They rang me looking to see if we could help," Walsh recalls. After receiv-

ing the call, she went to Kesterson, who informed her of the shortage of Bosnian families.

"That's how the connection started," Walsh stated.

The Beyond Housing Drive will still be helping Bosnian families, but the drive isn't limited to Bosnians. Instead of helping 40 families this year, each homeroom will be helping one individual and trying to cover their needs.

"They also have family needs," says Kesterson, and, as a result, homerooms will be teaming up to serve these family needs, which are often much larger and more expensive than the personal needs. "Some of the things they want are these larger items, and I don't think people are going to bring furniture into their homerooms," Kesterson said. Participation isn't "as visible right now... as it may have been in the past. We'll find out (this) afternoon."

The great hooded sweatshirt mix-up

Four sweatshirts swiped; students won't get them back

**Patrick Stephens
Core Staff**

You're not supposed to wear hoodies. That's it," said Assistant Principal for Student Welfare Eric Clark. Clark routinely confiscates hooded sweatshirts from students instead of giving them demerits and jugs. However, students expect to get those back eventually, but after a mix-up last Friday, not all will.

Last Thursday, Clark was interviewing prospective students after school. Considering that the students and their parents needed

to hang up coats, Clark moved the excess of hoodies that he had on the rack onto Clark's assistant Marla Maurer's chair for the time being. After completing the interviews, Clark forgot to tell Maurer about the hoodies being on her chair. He took Friday off.

When Maurer came in on Friday, she figured that the janitors had put the sweatshirts there instead of the lost and found box in Clark's office. She placed the sweatshirts on the benches with a sign, reading, "Take if Yours." Within the day, all the sweatshirts were gone.

When Clark

came in Monday, he was "wondering where they all went." He then informed Maurer that those sweatshirts were confiscated from students. Maurer told him of her distribution and Clark half-jokingly made an announcement to students on Monday that he wanted all sweatshirts back.

But Clark doesn't expect to get any of them back. He called all ten students whose sweatshirts he was withholding. Only six said they took the sweatshirts back; four complained that their sweatshirts were missing. Said Clark, "Students probably won't bring them back."



Senior Chris Guilfooy reenacts sweatshirt caper

Quote of the Week

*Homer: Let the bears pay the bear tax.
I pay the Homer tax.*

Lisa: Dad, that's the home owner tax.

-The Simpsons

COMMENTARY

Sinnott questions fan conduct at hockey games

Dan Sinnott
Core Staff

High schoolers yearn to be unsupervised. As a group, we crave an escape from the critical eyes watching our every move. SLUH students are given such an opportunity on a regular basis. Hockey games provide an environment where students can cheer for their team and support their school as they please, a privilege bestowed upon the Jr. Billiken crowd twenty times each year, not counting play-off games. Unfortunately, there are many people at SLUH not mature enough to handle such a responsibility. Cheering at hockey games has gotten to the point where I feel like I can no longer show my support for the hockey team.

On Monday, Dec. 2, I found out about the hockey game against CBC that Friday. Knowing CBC was a rival, I was naturally excited about seeing the game. Then, a thought popped into my head. Can I go to a hockey game and not be seen by adults—or anyone else for that matter—as an obnoxious, mean-spirited, hooligan teenager? The answer I came to was no. Fellow students have set a standard of poor sportsmanship at hockey games.

The excuse that hockey breeds a rowdier crowd just doesn't make much sense. Hockey is an intense game, but so are football and soccer, for example. So why are football fans so much more respectful than hockey fans? The crowd consists of many of the

Unfortunately, there are many people at SLUH not mature enough to handle such (lack of supervision). Cheering at hockey games has gotten to the point where I feel like I can no longer show my support for the hockey team.

same people, yet fan behavior differs greatly between the two sports. Are we only composed at football games because Mr. Clark is standing on the sidelines? Should our morality be decided by who is watching over us at any given time? We claim that there is something about our school that is different from the rest. Apparently, the spirit that is obvious in the halls stays in the halls.

On a regular basis I see students doing wonderful things for

each other and even those outside the SLUH community. However, on many weekend nights, SLUH students tailgate before hockey games with the intention of drinking alcohol. Once inside the hockey rink, abhorrent behavior escalates. Students continue to drink by any means possible (whether they choose to mix their liquor or drink it straight from the bottle is up to them) as well as

cheer inappropriately. Cheering has been degraded to the point where calling it cheering would be incorrect; it is berating the other team maliciously. Cheers like "Fat Ass Goalie" and "You suck" are prominent, childish, and despicable. I have stood next to women during many games in my time and have seen the look of discomfort on their faces as students chant unabashedly sexist and discriminatory terms at opposing players.

Where do we draw the line? When does SLUH stand up and say that such mean-spirited behavior has gone too far? Behavior at hockey games has been inexcusable for way too long; it is time that it stops.

Speechbills talk the talk at CISL speech contest

Drew Deubner
Reporter

On Sunday, Dec. 8, the speech team was in the heat of battle with other schools from around the area. Being the second meet of the year, they were quite ready.

Headed by Kathryn Whitaker, the diligent team of twelve walked into SLUH to participate in the year's second Catholic Interscholastic League's speech contest.

"We were blessed with home turf advantage," said team captain J.R. Strzelec. "All of the other teams were less comfortable than we were, so that gave us the extra edge."

The students participated in a number of events, including original oratory, where students composed their own work. A

few contributed to the team's status by participating in more than one category. Others performed in acting skits or acted with others in the duet acting category.

More than 230 students from 15 schools participated in the event, with SLUH receiving a number of blue and red ribbons. Some of the blue-ribbon winners were Brandon Bieber for poetry reading and Joe Thomas for prose reading. Whitaker was very impressed with the results of the speech team.

"I was very pleased with our team's performance, and we all had a great experience in it," she said.

The team still has not received the final tabulations to determine the victor. "I'm not certain who won," said the optimistic Whitaker, "but I'm happy with our performance at the meet."

Brazilian students coming to SLUH in December

Brian Fallon
Core Staff

This holiday season, Saint Louis University has decided to initiate the International Friends Program to host Brazilian high school students. This experience will allow 25 Brazilian high school students to expand their education and broaden their global perspectives while they participate in classes at SLU. The students plan to arrive on Saturday, Dec. 14, and will stay with host families until Jan. 31.

SLUH has been invited to participate in this program by Saint Louis University, along with other St. Louis high schools, because of the opportunities available to learn more about career options. SLU has also asked for any volunteer families from SLUH to host Brazilian students, although no commitment is mandatory.

The students will take a variety of courses, including introduction to com-

puters, and classes dealing with the history of Missouri, including the lives of Mark Twain and explorers Lewis and Clark.

The students will also be studying English, although they are already fluent. "We put the program together with the intent to help bring (the Brazilian students) an introduction to our social and economic culture," said Jennifer Ewald, director for the International Center at Saint Louis University.

Along with informative classes, the students will have the opportunity to participate in community service throughout Saint Louis. Service will include volunteer work at nursing homes, nurseries, and hospitals.

"They are also going to visit other high schools, public and private, to kind of get a feel, a flavor of education in the United States," noted Assistant Principal of Academics Art Zinselmeyer. Zinselmeyer was contacted by SLU

through Richard Hadel, S.J., whose contacts asked to involve SLUH in this program.

Along with being involved with showing the Brazilians around SLUH, students will have the opportunity to participate in classes at SLU. The program will commence on Dec. 30, and continue through January 31.

"Every day from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m., Saint Louis University is inviting the schools who host the Brazillian students to join them for different activities," explained Zinselmeyer. Transportation will be provided for students and faculty to SLU. "Obviously, I wouldn't want (students) to sign up for every course from 2:00 to 3:30. You'd miss seventh period every day," Zinselmeyer said. Rather, he encouraged juniors to choose a few programs which they would be interested in attending.

To receive information about these classes through Jan. 31, see Rebecca Berger in the counseling department.

Seven students travel to Fermilab, Argonne Lab

Rico Bertucci
Core Staff

Friday, Dec. 2, seven brave seniors piled into one of the big SLUH vans and ASC teacher Chris Kellet's jeep to partake in a daring field trip to two physics labs. They left at 7:15 a.m. that cold Friday morning, giving them plenty of time to make the 285 mile trip to Fermilab, nestled in the Chicago suburbs.

Advanced Physics Topics teacher John Shen made the arrangements for the trip. Fermilab lays claim to the largest, most powerful particle accelerator in the world called the Tevetron. Hydrogen atoms begin their thrill ride by being converted into H minus ions. These ions are then blasted through a carbon sheet made to strip both electrons leaving only the proton in the nucleus. These protons then fly through a linear accelerator, and then are whirled around the 4.5 mile Tevetron.

Protons in the Tevetron reach speeds near the speed of light. These fast-moving protons are then collided with anti-protons and the resulting collisions break the particles into more basic particles. Presently, scientists at Fermilabs are looking for a new particle called the Higgs Boson, which is supposed to be the particle that explains mass. Scientist there hope that, by finding this particle experimentally for the first time, they will be given the Nobel Prize for Physics.

Although the Higgs experiment is the most prominent at Fermi, important neutrino experiments are also being conducted. In one experiment, protons are aimed at a neutrino detector in a mine in Minnesota. These protons enter the earth's crust, which strips away all but the neutrons that make up the protons. These neutrons, which can pass freely through the earth's crust, are then detected in the far-away mine.

After a refreshing night, the students were ready for the second half of the trip: a tour of Argonne Labs. While Fermilabs seemed to have unlimited resources, the government-run Argonne was a little more dilapidated. Argonne labs, because of its limited budget, once bought a linear accelerator for one dollar, and a large quantity of equipment from the 1950s.

Although Argonne didn't look as pretty, it still helps hundreds of researchers finish important experiments every year. It is the only lab in the country to have an instrument called an Intense Pulse Neutron Source.

Donnie Schmidt recalled the trip as being "absolutely top drawer."

Shen commented, "As a teacher I learned a lot that I didn't know about physics and I feel the students did as well."

Mike Leuchtman seconded that opinion by saying the trip was "The best field trip I have ever been on."

Performance arts culminate in Winter Concert

Kevin McCarthy
Reporter

This Sunday, Dec. 15, the fine arts department will be holding its annual Christmas concert, a combination of band, chorus, and dance performances. The concert will begin at 1:00 p.m. with the band performance and then continue at 4:00 p.m. with the chorus and dance productions. The concert, according to choral director Joe Koestner, is "the culmination of a semester's worth of work."

Koestner and band director Bryan Mueller have made changes to the performances. For the first time, the chorus will be singing what is known as a cantana. "A cantana,"

Koestner says, "is a work that consists of a series of solos and choruses and narration that is all tied together into a single theme." During part of the cantana, even the audience will be asked to participate.

Following the cantana, the varsity and freshman choruses will each sing one song. The varsity will sing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," and the freshmen will end the choral production with "People, Go Where I Send You."

Ullmann, Florek earn State band spots

Compiled by sources

On Saturday, Dec. 7th, five SLUH band members traveled to Hickman High School in Columbia, Mo. to audition for the All State Bands. Mike Havard, Joe Gilfoil, Tony Kroeger, Charles Ullman and Paul Florek earned positions in the District Honors Band in November, allowing them to compete at the state level.

The individual musicians performed prepared scales and musical etudes for a panel of judges. Almost 1100 students tried out for only 100 positions. They had call backs to narrow the field down,

Many of Mueller's changes have arisen out of changes made in the band program itself. The new concert band will be having its debut performance on Sunday. Mueller said, "I'm very happy this year; this is the first year that the intermediate band group is just a concert band." Mueller noted that the concert band was



A dancing class practices for the performance

previously a concert and jazz band. Mueller has also added a percussion ensemble piece.

A total of five different bands will play. The freshman band will begin the show, followed by the concert and symphonic bands. Then, after a five minute stretch break, the two jazz bands will finish the show. Mueller noted that he had "streamlined the concert a little bit, so it will just last one hour and a half."

putting some students through the audition process a third time (once at district and twice at state). By 2:00 p.m., students found out if they had made call backs or not. Students auditioned again; this time, they could be asked to sight-read a piece.

Sophomore Charles Ullmann competed against 56 other tuba players and placed 7th, giving him the alternate tuba chair in the state concert band. Sophomore Paul Florek placed 3rd out of 106 trumpet players, giving him the opportunity to select the first chair trumpet position in the all state orchestra.

Band director Bryan Mueller said the auditioning process is a good experience

The SLUH dance department will end the show on Sunday with six performances. The two Dance I classes, I-A and I-B, will be dancing to themes from "Mortal Kombat" and "James Bond," respectively. Following this performance, both After School Dance I and II will perform. The production will end with a dance done by the combined classes to the song "Last Night I Saw Santa Claus."

There will be an all-school assembly to watch part of the performances during activity period today. According to Koestner, "It is like the fine arts department Christmas card to the school," Mueller said. "We are just trying to expose the school to the program. If they don't get out and see a concert or see a musical, they might never see us."

During the production on Friday, the school will be able to hear part of the choral cantana and the varsity chorus. The band program will set forth the two jazz bands as their representatives, and the Dance Department will perform one dance, the Christmas song, done by the combined classes.

for a student planning on furthering his career in music and that the day offers opportunities for students and band directors to meet and exchange ideas with others.

Quote of the Week

"The world is incompatible, just never forget it: Ghosts, Nazis, saints, all alive at the same time; in one spot, blissful happiness, while down the road, the inferno. You can't ask for a wilder place."

-Salman Rushdie
The Satanic Verses

SO I MARRIED AN ACSA MURDERER

(from 1)
event.”

However, senior Tim Rubbelke countered, “School spirit isn’t related to rowdiness.”

Some members, however, felt that rowdiness is directly related to the sport. “There’s something different about hockey,” said Sarah Pleban. Hockey is a violent game and, according to Pleban, “behaviors follow along.”

STUCO moderator Brock Kesterson responded by commenting, “Saying that hockey is a fast-paced game isn’t an excuse to be a moron.”

One of the main problems with rowdiness, and, more specifically, drinking, is that hockey is a club sport and not school-sponsored, the debate about who should keep the fans in line is unsettled.

Kesterson believes that dealing with drunk students is the worst part of his job. Said Kesterson, “There’s got to be some accountability.” Most faculty members don’t want to go to the hockey games to contain student rowdiness.

Clark said he felt “accountability starts with the students and the parents.”

However, senior Denis Agniel said, “The only thing that seems to make the students accountable is the faculty.”

Senior Matt Hoffman suggested that STUCO try to contain the fans. Said Hoffman, “If they lead the cheering at football games and they keep it under control, maybe they could go to hockey games and maybe keep it under control.”

Clark ended the discussion by saying, “You’re representing SLUH out there...When are you going to step up and challenge each other?” Clark plans to bring the issue to the administration.

The next subject Clark raised was bullying. He told the committee that a freshman had left the school earlier this year because he was being bullied. “It’s happening here, and we need to stop it,” said Clark. Most of the bullying happens freshman and sophomore year.

Senior Jon Mills noted the effect the upperclassmen, especially senior advisors, have on the freshman. He said the

situation will improve if “we can get the kids realizing we are all here for a reason.”

Linda Howenstein suggested a hard-line approach to bullying. “Our school is only as good as the people inside of it,” she said. She thinks a zero-tolerance policy is necessary.

Clark pointed out that he does have a zero-tolerance policy and the student bullying the freshman was suspended.

However, junior Nate Hilliard felt the solution was to stop people from making fun of each other. “You have to be careful. You don’t know how they will take it, so just try and end it completely.”

Some members felt that bullying was unavoidable. “You’re going to get a few guys that are jerks,” said senior Sean McKittrick. “There’s a large group of people that will go along with them.”

Barbara Simon felt that the bullies are also at risk. “Are they getting any help or counseling? This is a serious problem,”

Barralle ended the conversation by challenging the members to stand up against bullying. “Take a stand against it,” he said.

The final topic of the night was sleep deprivation.

“I think this is a very serious problem, but I don’t think the students realize it. It is a health problem,” said Maureen Mahach.

Many students felt that they were sleep deprived, but few voiced any serious concerns about themselves.

“I’m a busy person. The fact is sleep is always last on my list,” said McMahill.

Students blamed sleep deprivation on extra-curricular activities, procrastination, and work load.

“I think there’s a problem with course loads,” said Mills. However, he added, “I’m a huge procrastinator.”

Hilliard echoed this feeling. “A lot of this is our fault,” he said.

Senior Tim Lauth thought that the main issue is time management. “It’s one of the skills high school teaches us.”

Junior Pat Neuner agreed: “It’s our job to find the balance.”

Clark ended the discussion at 8:30 sharp. He said, “Sleep deprivation does go back to procrastination. Students need to be able to better manage their time and the school needs to uphold their end of the bargain.”

CAVE

(from 1)
old spot is the main concern.”

Aliste informed him that she had previously talked with maintenance supervisor Ray Manker, who informed her that it was not a problem. Clark was still concerned.

After Clark consulted other administrators and Manker, the administration decided to close down 216c.

Sophomore Michael Gramke recounted the incident: “Mr. Clark came in, and he was stepping outside. And there was a little ditch that he kind of fell into, and he looked all over the room, and there were other ditches. He just made everyone get out of the room.”

On Thursday, Facilities Director Patrick Zarrick called in Pete Benoist, architect and project manager from Hercules Construction, to look at the incident spots. Zarrick said there was also an area in 221c needing repair.

“(It) had been a soft spot for a while, but it wasn’t as evident (as 216c),” said Zarrick.

Tychonievich said that the soft spot in 216c is not a new problem. “That room has been like that since last year. It’s just simply that the threshold is an area in the room where everybody walks...right in that area there’s a lot of weight (put on the floor), and what’s happened over time is that it’s kind of collapsed a little bit.”

Students who have classes in the room downplayed the magnitude of the soft spot in the floor.

Said senior Joe Nagel, “You feel a give; it’s nothing major. At least I don’t think so.” Nagel has yet to notice any such areas other than the one at the doorway.

Gramke was unaware that there were any of these spots in the floor until Wednesday, saying that even now that he knew of the spots, they were “hardly noticeable.”

see IN, 14

Basketbills defeat Pacific 73-36 in season opener

**Kyle Poelker
Reporter**

The Jr. Bills opened the 2002-'03 basketball campaign last Friday night with a grudge match against last year's season opening spoiler, the Pacific High Indians. This game kicked off the second edition of the the John Ross coached varsity basketball team, and they were there to impress.

Starting the season's inaugural game were seniors Phinney Troy and Pat Ostapowicz, juniors John Kaminski and Andy Lowes, and sophomore Dave Goettelmann, who started only because of a technicality. When the starters were announced, for some reason Goettelmann was announced instead of senior captain Jason LaFlore. According to MSHSAA rules, once the starting lineup has been announced, it cannot be changed. After the first violation however, LaFlore was inserted into the game.

Aside from the starting lineup blun-

der, the game went rather smoothly for the Jr. Bills. After Ostapowicz hit an acrobatic layup over his defender in the lane,

the Jbills opened up an 18-9 lead over the Indians. The Hoopbills maintained a comfortable 10-point lead for most of the remainder of the first half. However, starting with Kaminski's third foul late in the second quarter, the Indians started to

put together a run. They hit the two free throws that were the result of the Kaminski foul, pulling them within 9. Then, after a defensive stop on the other end, Pacific

came up the floor and scored, making the score 23-16.

But any hope of a run was thwarted by Jason LaFlore, who hit a 3-pointer with just seconds remaining in the half, putting the Jr. Bills up by 12.

The Jr. Bills came out after halftime cruising. The points just seemed to keep adding up. Lowes put in a fast break layup

off a baseball pass from LaFlore two minutes in, putting the Jordanbills up by 16. There was no looking back from there, and the Pacific Indians had no answer for

see OPENER, 10



Pat Ostapowicz attempts a free throw in Friday's season-opening win over Pacific High.

Icebills lose 4-0 to CBC, defeat St. Mary's, 7-1

**Chris Wojcicki
Reporter**

Coming into last Friday night's game, CBC was the top-ranked team in the state. That fact still remains after the Cadets pummeled the Puckbills in a 4-0 shutout. The Jr. Bills were utterly dominated, testing the CBC netminder with only 8 shots.

At the other end of the ice, though, was the only bright spot of the game for the Jr. Bills. Charlie Effinger stopped 44 of 48 shots in an outstanding individual effort, but it was not enough stop the romp.

In the words of defenseman Derek Winters, "That was our first big test of the season, and we failed." Winters paused to add, "We really appreciated the enormous crowd though, even if we didn't give them much to watch."

The following night, the team faced a

perennially weak St. Mary's squad. Wise veteran head coach Charlie Busenhart gave Charlie Effinger and Kyle Butler the night off.

Even without their star juniors, the team still dominated, scoring three goals in the opening period. The first two were scored by freshman Eddie Effinger with assists from Matt Pijut, and the third by junior Dane Moody.

The Jr. Bills scored three more in the second to continue the offensive rout. Senior Tim Mudd scored two, both assisted by Mike Tangaro, and Winters added the third.

The third period gave St. Mary's its only goal after the puck took a bad hop off a nick in the ice, resulting in a breakaway. The Puckbills got the goal back, however, on Pijut's deflection of a Howie Place slapshot.

The Icebills play again tonight against Fox at Affton at 9:45.

PN Nightbeat

**BASKETBILLS STAY
COMPETITIVE, BUT EDGED OUT
BY VASHON 62-56**

SLUH kept up with small schools' #1 Vashon who pulled out a lead in the fourth quarter winning by six points.

"The team played with heart, and never gave up," captain Jason LaFlore said.

**MATHEWS LEADS
RACQUETBILLS IN WIN OVER
KIRKWOOD**

The Racquetbills lengthened their win streak to four games with a strong win over Kirkwood last night, going 6-1 to win the match. Top-seeded junior Phil Mathews played a consistent match by dominating his previously undefeated Kirkwood opponent, winning 15-13, 15-10.

Singlebills lose to CBC in MCC opener

Mike Smallwood
Reporter

Over the past week, the Wrestlingbills have taken several valuable steps in gaining experience on the way to the still far-off postseason. Although this week's matches are simply two of some forty matches for many of the varsity wrestlers, there are still lessons that can be learned.

Last Thursday, the Jr. Bills headed south to take on the Owls of Windsor. The team was a bit surprised with the physicality of the Windsor wrestlers, but the Jr. Bills were in better shape and more disciplined.

Coach Tim Curdt commented, "They wanted to brawl, (but) we wrestled."

One would think with such tough matches the dominance of the Jr. Bills would slow down, but that was not the case. Captain Rob Nahlik (119) never gave his opponent a chance to get a point on him. He took him down early in the first, and then wore him out on the bottom with pinning attempts—each one picking

up two or three more points. Finally Nahlik went ahead by 15 points to win by technical fall and earn five team points.

Junior Nick Born (125) used pure technique for a decisive pin in a mere 35 seconds, bouncing his man from a front headlock right to his back for the victory.

The latter half of the heart of the lineup had to fight hard to earn its points. Boyd Gonnerman (130) and Justin Clerc (140) picked up wins by points while Chris Cahill (135), Chris Wagnitz (152), Ryan Stevenson (160), and Greg Leibach (189) all pinned their opponents. Consequently, Leibach was awarded wrestler of the week honors for getting two pins in his first two varsity matches and earning the team 12 points.

After all the hard-fought wins, the team had racked up a 60-15 win in a dominating performance over a physically tough team.

Having learned the necessity of good technique at Windsor, the Jr. Bills learned a more shocking lesson Tuesday evening as they met rival CBC on Clayton Road.

CBC came out with intensity while the Jr. Bills looked flat and somewhat fatigued. After a loss at the 103 weight division by pin, things looked to be turning around for the Jr. Bills when sophomore Andrew Poulin (112) picked up a surprising win. In his first match at the varsity level, he came out excited but with a confidence that left no room for any question in the crowd's mind that he was going to win. With a quick pick of an ankle he had his man down and on his back, achieving the pin in only 31 seconds.

Nahlik added to this early lead with his precise execution of technique.

"He's our foundation. He's our leader, and we just expect so much from him," Curdt commented on the importance of Nahlik's win.

Gonnerman (130) kept things going by dragging his opponent back onto the mat and pinning his shoulders just inside of the out of bounds line at 3:35.

With the experience of Born missing at 125 due to illness, the night was far
see **SWEATY MATS, 10**

Swimbills make a splash in win over Lafayette

Michael Leuchtmann
Reporter

Last Friday, coach Fritz Long and the Bubblebills streamed past their third team in only two meets. They bettered their record to 2-0 by boiling the Lafayette Lancers 99-87 in their own pool. Adding to the success of the night, an uncanny number of swimmers—seven—qualified in events to be eligible to swim in the final state meet at the Rec-Plex.

The meet was a showcase of Jr. Bill talent, as it was the first official race for many of the varsity swimmers.

Captain Nick Rottler pointed out "Lancers have too much armor on to be able to swim," as the reason the team won the meet.

It was, however, an impressive showing of fishiness by the swimmers, with many achieving personal bests or qualify-

ing.

Captain Tom Heafner qualified in the 200 individual medley with a time of 2:06.36. His sophomore brother Tim, not wanting to be shown up, also did his best to make it into the state meet by swimming the 50 freestyle in 23.10 seconds.

Before the waves in the pool had settled, junior Kurt Doll in the 500 and 50 freestyle, junior Nathan Harris in the 100 butterfly, junior Gabe Toennies in 200 freestyle, and sophomore Tim Szewczyk in the 100 backstroke would all qualify for the big competition to be the best team in Missouri. Two relay teams, the 200 free relay and the 400 free relay, also bettered their times for standing in the state qualifying.

For this year, Long has three main goals, which he thinks can all be achieved by the Swimbills: to finish top three in the

state, to have no touch-outs at the finish, and to have best times across the board.

Long is working the team hard in practice to achieve these goals, and Friday's meet seems to be proof that the practices are working.

Long said, "The meet was a good team effort; it was a nice job. These guys are really coming together and supporting each other."

Students are encouraged to see the Turbobbills compete at Marquette this weekend in the Marquette Relays. At this large invitational every year, the best teams in the state compete in numerous unusual relays against one another as a preview of the state showdown.

"Swimming's sweet; swimming's fun; come watch us be number one!" said Rottler.

Racquetbills conquer Hendren Invitational

Chris Guilfoy
Reporter

On Dec. 7 the Racquetbills matched up against the rest of the league in the Gary Hendren Invitational. As they entered Concord-Vetta Sports on a cold Saturday morning, the Jr. Bills were shown a new format to the tournament.

In previous years, each player would play at his respective seed against three randomly selected opponents. If the player won his match, his team would gain one point, of a possible 24 points.

The rules of this year's match were as follows: each player played six opponents from their respective seeds; each player played a single game to fifteen points; each player had to win by two points. By playing six opponents of the eight opposing teams that played in the league, teams gained a strong sense of how their competition would be for the year.

The Racquetbills battled strong in this all day event, beginning at 10 a.m. and finishing at about 5:30 p.m. Fighting time constraints, very warm halls, and quite

Riflebills defeat Quincy in first home match

Andrew Hrdlicka
Reporter

This past Saturday, the Jr. Bills hosted their first three-position air rifle match of the year as the Blue Devils of Quincy High School traveled to the palace on Oakland for their first match of the year. All signs pointed to an easy victory for the Jr. Bills' varsity team but not before a number of things would go wrong, forcing a few changes in the match.

In order for all shooters to participate in the match, two relays had to be held. The first relay started at 8:00 a.m. with the junior varsity team manning the line. But when Quincy arrived in the Range That Hagan Built, Jr. Bills coach Will Bresnahan was informed that Quincy had an extra shooter. Not wanting to ruin the day of this young shooter,

moist courts, the Jr. Bills eventually pulled out a "W" by winning 42 of a possible 48 games. The Spartans of DeSmet took second place by winning 39 of 48 games. Even though the Spartans were close, they were no match for the Jr. Bills, who defeated the Spartans 6-2 in head-to-head play.

Wiping out the rest of the competition, the Rbills lost only six games and only one Jr. Bill lost more than one match.

The greatest surprise of the day was that the Jr. Bills were short two players. Junior John Reagan could not attend due to a soccer game. Doubles enforcer Jon Mills played in Reagan's number six spot. With a stellar performance, Mills went undefeated to add to the Jaybill's win.

Top junior varsity seed Eric Durbin played in the seventh spot for the tournament. Even though losing one game, Durbin played six strong games and looks to be a strong asset to the team in future

years.

However, the greatest surprise of the day came from Brian Kelly. Usually playing in the second seed of JV, Kelly stepped his play up two notches and won five of his six games in the eighth spot.

Praising the varsity, Kelly noted that, "There are a lot of decent varsity teams in

the St. Louis area, and I was thrilled to be a part of it (on Saturday). Along with DeSmet, we have a strong team, however we also have a powerful JV team to back (our varsity)."

The remainder of the Racquetbills held strong. Top-seeded junior Phil Mathews won all of his matches, a huge lift for the team. Junior Tom Carrow also went undefeated in his play. Mike Brand and junior Eric Weber both lost one game despite very strong performances. The Jr. Bills are looking forward to a very strong season in close competition with DeSmet.



DRAWING BY HOWIE PLACE

a temporary air rifle range was set up in the world famous pool hall next to the rifle range, the first time the rec room had been used as an air rifle range since 1992.

The addition of this extra shooter also prompted Quincy's coach to ask to shoot with three-man teams instead of standard four-man teams. This seemed fishy to the quick-witted Jr. Bills shooters because they knew that Quincy only had three shooters capable of shooting scores close to the Jr. Bills' varsity, but they responded professionally and allowed the match to continue.

The match finally began, and after two hours, two blown fuses that created a near blackout situation in the range, and 60 shots of air rifle bliss, the Sniperbills finished the match on top of the Quincy Blue Devils.

The Jr. Bills' varsity team shot a very

respectable if not scary score of 1724 out of a possible 1800, with junior Chris Seals and Scott Isaak and Adam Hilkenkamp shooting scores of 580, 578, and 566, respectively. Seals's score of 580 was a personal best and only three points behind the school record. Junior Andrew Hrdlicka and sophomore Kevin Witbrodt were able to shoot personal best scores of 577 and 566 respectively, out of a possible 600. Junior Kevin Gentsch rounded out the JV team with a score of 557 for a solid team score of 1700.

The new format of three-man teams instead of four-man teams left two JV shooters, junior Keith Reilly and sophomore Brian Nienhaus, without a team to shoot on. Despite their lack of teammates and competition, they shot personal scores of 561 and 557.

Despite the adverse conditions, late

see REMINGTON, 10

OPENER

(from 7)

anything the Jr. Bills could throw at them. Every player on the Basketbill roster saw significant playing time and all scored, creating a balanced attack which stifled Pacific.

The effort of Pat Ostapowicz was especially powerful as he scored 19 points in the game.

The outcome was a 73-36 win for the Basketbills, a win described as a "solid team effort" by Kaminski.

Also, comparing his basketball experience in Indiana to his first with the Jr. Bills, Kaminski added, "I didn't feel that much pressure, but there were way more fans in Indiana."

The win also avenged the last year's loss for Ross, who lost to Pacific in his first game as head coach.

Monday's game against Kirkwood left much to be desired for the Jr. Bills. Kirkwood came out in a full court man-to-man press, which initially seemed to shake the Jr. Bills. They adapted themselves quickly though, and the Pioneers and

SWEATY MATS

(from 8)
from over.

Curd said, "We still could have won with some of the younger guys."

For example, sophomore Chris Cahill (135) had to face Nick Lobosco, who placed fifth in state last year, but Cahill refused to give up any extra team points as he fought off the relentless pinning efforts of Lobosco and only ceded four team points in the loss.

However, the "wall of the lineup" came out a "little flat," according to Curdt and therefore had to wrestle some close matches. The Jr. Bills dropped three straight matches on points: Clerc (140) 5-1, Smith (145) 5-3, and Wagnitz (152) 12-5.

Ryan Stevenson (160) tried to get things turned backed into the Jr. Bills' favor by "handily beating an opponent that he had beaten throughout last year at the JV level," said Curdt.

Rossbills traded baskets for much of the first quarter. The score remained close throughout, but a Kirkwood shot with 11 seconds left to play gave them the 17-14 lead.

That's the closest the Jr. Bills got to the Pioneers for the remainder of the game. Halfway through the second quarter, Kirkwood had upped its lead to 10, and only because of the inspired play of reserve junior Mark Lubus, who was the only Jr. Bills player to score in double digits, were the Rossbills able to stay within ten. At the half, Kirkwood led 37-26, and like the Jr. Bills on Friday, never looked back.

The Jr. Bills managed to show they still had a pulse after a technical foul on Kirkwood midway through the third quarter. The technical foul was due to an error concerning Kirkwood players' numbers. The game ended with a 57-42 Kirkwood win.

Describing the game, Lubus commented that the Jr. Bills were "not together as a team" and that the team had "a lot to work on."

He worked the entire match, "trying new stuff," Curdt commented. He worked hard while on top and kept control while using good form to come close to pins. In one such instance, Stevenson was nearly able to elevate his opponent's whole body, while his shoulders dangled just above the mat.

After a few more pins by the Cadets at 171, 189, and 215, John Stathopoulos manhandled his opponent as he flattened him out to get the pin at 1:07.

Following the match, Curdt said, "It was a disappointing match...It was an important dual, but you can only learn from it; that's the only option in responding to it."

He has confidence that a team with such strong character, a team which has worked so hard, will have no trouble bouncing back from the tough loss.

"They are too focused, too mature to let this get to them," concluded Curdt.

The Basketbills will try to rectify Monday's uninspired performance on Thursday when they take on the nationally-ranked, two-time defending state champion and fellow city school Vashon in the Webster classic. Check the *PN Nightbeat* for results of the game.

REMINGTON

(from 10)
starting time, and three-man teams, varsity and junior varsity teams with scores of 1724 and 1700 both beat Quincy's varsity team score of 1662. Five of eight Jr. Bills shooters, Seals, Hrdlicka, Witbrodt, Reilly, and Nienhaus, shot personal best scores in the first home match of the long rifle season. Hrdlicka had a breakthrough day and hopes to make a serious run for a spot on the top team in upcoming matches.

TROY NAMED TO MISSOURI ALL-STATE FOOTBALL TEAM



Troy's sophomore yearbook photo.

Senior Phinney Troy was named to the Missouri All-State football team as a defensive lineman. In a mere ten games, Troy recorded 75 tackles, 3 quarterback sacks, 3 fumble recoveries, and 1 interception. Troy is currently being recruited by several smaller Division IA, IAA, and division IIA schools.

Students discuss beliefs, reflect on Atheism

Brian Kane
Core Staff

As students journey through adolescence, a key facet of their development should include a deep spiritual formation and a search for truth. In this issue of the *Prep News*, and the one following it, students who have reached a plateau in their search for truth will share their thoughts, opinions, and experiences through the printed word. This week will feature the stance of atheism; next week, the beliefs of Catholics will be examined.

"I don't believe in God at this point in my life. I haven't seen any proof that he or she would exist. I don't see a reason that he or she would exist," says sophomore Patrick Ivers. This stance is a radical change from Ivers's former views on God. "I was a pretty hardcore Catholic," he notes.

Over time, Ivers's views shifted. He cited overexposure to Catholicism as a possible reason for the change. "Part of it may just be that I've had so much of it that it just seems so annoying, and certain aspects of it are just so wrong to me that I don't want anything to do with it."

One such aspect that contributed to his atheism is his stance on organized religion.

"I don't like organized religion. Once you sit down and you formulate rules and say, 'You have to be in accordance with this belief of ours or else we're going to exclude you'...that's when you're losing sight of whatever you started out to accomplish."

Of Catholicism specifically, he says, "It's scary when...somebody says, 'Our Father,' and everybody chimes in, and they start reciting that whole prayer."

Though he is against organized religion, Ivers is accepting of shared faith. "I wouldn't have a problem with people (who have common beliefs) and occasionally they got together and talked about it," he says. Rather, his concern is "when you start saying, '...we're all getting together on this day; we're all observing these already set out things.'"

Ivers stresses that being an atheist does not entitle a person to do whatever he or she pleases: "Just because there's not going to be any judgement of me doesn't mean that I'm going to go around killing and raping and stealing and lying. I'm going to do the opposite of that."

Ivers also has theological questions for which he does not see plausible answers.

"If anyone can explain why God has been here forever and the means for life haven't, I'd like to hear it," he says, "preferably without the Bible." He continues, "You can't really make an

answer because (concepts of God are) all theoretical."

According to Ivers, the formation of a personal moral code is an important part of being an atheist. Even if the standards of his personal code were to dovetail perfectly with those of a Christian moral code, he does not think they would be the same.

"There's a difference between a set of rules that somebody makes for you and a set of rules that you make for yourself," he says. "When you make your own rules for yourself, the rules you're going to make (will come) out of life experiences. I wouldn't want something of mine taken, so I would pay the same respect to other people. My life is something that I value, so I try to value other people's lives."

Though he respects rules like the Ten Commandments, he believes that when sets of rules are applied to whole groups, they are opened up to interpretation, which can lead to conflict. He (therefore) thinks that personal rules are better.

In summary, Ivers says, "I don't have anything against people believing there's a God, it's just that if you lived a day going through your life just imagining that there isn't a God, it's kind of hard just to go back (to believing)."

An anonymous senior is also an atheist. "I'm not sure about anything, but I would say I'm more confident that there's not a God than there is a God," he says. "Even Catholics aren't going to claim they know, but they're pretty sure, so they would consider themselves Catholic. I'm pretty sure there's not

a God, so I'd consider myself an atheist."

On the process he went through to come to his conclusion, he says, "I looked at the reasons that I thought I believed in God and realized that I didn't believe those reasons...The evidence that I did see I didn't really buy into."

Some of the evidence he does not agree with includes the creation of the universe, the resurrection of Jesus, and the testimony of the apostles. "(The gospel accounts) are 2000 years old. I don't know how reliable that is. Also I don't know about the politics of the time...A lot of times religion is intertwined with politics. I don't know exactly what was going on at the time," he says, adding, "There's not enough evidence there that would suggest that those eyewitness accounts are going to be real. I don't know why the people said (what they did), but it just doesn't seem to be that reliable. For some people it is, and that's okay."

As far as a motivation for people of Jesus' time giving false testimony, he says, "People do all sorts of crazy things in the name of religion. You see cults, you see radical Muslims attacking the World Trade Center, you see radical Catholics driving cars into abortion clinics."

"I don't believe in God at this point in my life. I haven't seen any proof that he or she would exist. I don't see a reason that he or she would exist,"
-Patrick Ivers

ATHEISM

(from 11)

The driving force of his atheism is a lack of evidence supporting God's existence, rather than an abundance of evidence discrediting it. "I don't see the proof that (God) exists, so I assume (God) doesn't exist," he says. "I don't think I'm ever going to prove (that God doesn't exist); I'm not trying to prove it."

Though his analysis of his own beliefs led him to atheism, he thinks the process can be both rewarding and fortifying for Catholics. He says, "I think (atheist views) should be brought up, talked about...I think through studying atheism, a Catholic could become a stronger Catholic."

Unlike Ivers, this anonymous senior sees no problem with organized religions as long as certain standards are met. "I don't have a problem for people that are in organized religion as long as they honestly believe that what they're doing is the truth," he says. "If people are doing something just to be doing it, or they don't know why they're doing it, I do see a problem with that. I think any belief you claim to make you should be able to back up. So if someone is a good Catholic and they really believe that honestly, they've truthfully come to the conclusion that they believe Jesus is God and everything, I think that's fine."

Junior Peter Gosik says, "I don't believe in God, but that's not the same as saying I disbelieve in God. It doesn't matter to me and I don't think I'm capable of finding that out." He adds, "I do not deny 100 percent the possibility because it's impossible to prove that there's not a God."

Gosik claims he has met with some intolerance to his views while at SLUH. "Last year, I had an individual come up to me and say I shouldn't be able to sing at Mass because I'm an atheist," he says. He also says there have been several times when people have approached him and told him that he should not even be allowed to attend SLUH since he is an atheist.

In regards to teachers' responses to his views, he says, "I've been really lucky because all of my theology teachers have always been very understanding and accepting of my position."

Gosik adds, "All the faculty I've dealt with more or less have been pretty open...I think that there's more close-mindedness in the student body."

He thinks that, "Anybody who's teaching at a religious institution is going to be a proponent of that religion, but at the same time I don't think that the priority of the teachers at SLUH is to produce Catholic students. I think their priority is to produce good people, and if they're Catholic, that's so much the better."

He feels that his beliefs do nothing to separate him from others around him. "I think we agree on the what, we just don't agree on the why," he says. "It's not a hindrance, it's just a difference."

Gosik refers to his shift to atheism as a "slow and steady degradation" of his beliefs. When he was younger, the religious people he was exposed to were not people he wanted to emulate, and he says he never had a very good experience with the Church itself. While this had an effect, he emphasizes that he is not an atheist just because of any dislike of the Church.

Gosik considers his beliefs to be "in a constant state of reevaluation," and thinks this element of the search for truth is

important, saying, "I think a lazy atheist is just as bad as a lazy Catholic."

He has not eliminated the possibility that God exists, with absolute certainty. "If something says to me tomorrow that there is a God, I would not be ashamed to admit it."

Sophomore Joey Muller decided that he was an atheist during his freshman year. "(My theology teacher) said the way you can have strong faith is questioning your faith,

and I guess making it through that you have strong faith, and I guess when I questioned my faith I found out that I didn't really believe in it," he says.

Muller thinks there can be some intolerance toward atheists from orthodox Catholics. He says, "I think some of them tend to think of all atheists as bad people, or really extreme people, and that's not always the case. I think most of the people that really understand what (atheism) means are accepting about it."

Muller adds, "I don't think most people that are atheists really run around saying it unless they're just going for attention or wanting to be different." Acting just the opposite, he says, "Sometimes I do go up for communion just for the sake of not making a scene. I just don't want to disrupt things too much."

Nick Engle, an atheist in the senior class, thinks SLUH played a major role in his conversion. "If they hadn't taught me some of the stuff that they taught us about philosophy...then I probably wouldn't be where I am now, because I probably wouldn't have questioned (my faith) as much," he says. "It's kind of ironic that stuff SLUH taught me allowed me to become this way."

Next week's issue the *Prep News* will present the other side of the issue with a feature highlighting the beliefs of ardent Catholics.

"All the faculty I've dealt with more or less have been pretty open...I think that there's more close-mindedness in the student body."

-Peter Gosik

 PU

(from 1)

or the library, and this restriction often leads to teachers having to either move their classes to those areas to be able to work with computers in class or using certain computers only in lab-type situations, as is the case of many science classes.

Physics teacher Paul Baudendistel thought that every student's having his own laptop would greatly benefit some aspects of his class because students would be able to get familiar with programs before being in a lab where they have to carry out an experiment and learn to use the software at the same time.

"For (students) to have (their) own graph, for (their) being able to see it on (their own) screen is a huge advantage," he said.

But new systems, no matter how beneficial, would lend themselves to other difficulties in early implementation.

"The entire school is going to have to change how it approaches teaching," said senior Justin Luner. "Computers definitely change the way things are taught...Teachers would have to find a new way to teach if they want to integrate this laptop as a fundamental teaching tool."

There are potential drawbacks in computers' altering teaching in a way that would make it difficult for many teachers to adjust by clouding material with technology.

"Putting laptops in the students' hands that they would bring to class everyday forces a teacher to employ a methodology of class that perhaps isn't appropriate for the lesson or their style," said history department chair Peggy Pride. "Technology doesn't fit everywhere. In history sometimes we want to think, we want to discuss, and what use would the computer be in this?"

"You learn how to use a tool, which is a good thing and makes it easier for you, but you still have to remember to teach the basic concept," Luner said.

There is lots of discussion surrounding the new technology which will be put into service at CBC. It would allow students to take their teachers' board notes from their lectures and use those as a surrogate for their own note-taking.

"I know I wouldn't feel comfortable with students just sitting there inertly and at the end of the day saying, 'I already have all of the notes.' Well, where were you in the learning process? Educational research shows that the act of writing something down forces you to remember it better," said Baudendistel. He did say, however, that such notes would be useful in helping to recreate missed material for absent students.

Giving every student his own laptop could lead to problems in maintenance of those computers, especially among students who do not know much about them.

"Laptops are supposed to be pretty tough and durable, but they're still computers and they've still got fragile parts that can still break, just the way stuff in the computer lab gets treated," said Luner. "If you have every student that has a laptop, you then have to be able to give every student technical support for that laptop in order to make sure that this is the way we want to teach, and everybody's going to be able to learn this way. Once the laptop breaks down, somebody's out of the loop until he gets it fixed."

"What if a kid comes to me and says 'My battery's not charged, (the teachers) can't do anything that's important?'" asked Pride.

"Can students take care of their computers? I don't know," chuckled Baudendistel.

Adding new computers would lead to a need for new computer staff members. "We are maxed out right now just (having the current computer system). If you add 1000 computers to that, some estimates are that you'd need to add between (four and eight) special computer consultants," said Rittenhouse.

English department chair Chuck Hussung mentioned the problems of having students playing video games during class instead of paying attention. "One of my classroom rules is your calculator is never on your desktop...because I don't want my students playing games in class," he said. He thought having to make sure kids are working and not playing games would make him too much of a policeman. "I'd like to make sure there would be

no computer games on the laptop," he added.

But whatever the shortcomings of such a computer plan, there are always advantages to new technology in the classroom.

"Computers are flashy," said Schenkenberg. "(They are) fun to watch, and (they) capture your interest."

"Certainly computers make learning a lot more interactive than just working with a book," said Luner.

Rittenhouse is excited about the possibility of adding new projectors to many classrooms that teachers could hook up to their own computers. Hussung wants to make such projectors available to any English teacher who can use one. According to him, they would be useful for dissecting and analyzing sentences in a more interesting and easier to use way. He thinks that they would encourage teachers to work more with grammar because of the ease of a new system.

But implementing such a system probably won't happen soon. With budget shortfalls and the current economic situation making it more difficult for the school to find capital for new initiatives, extensive innovations are mostly merely discussion right now.

"It would be expensive," said Schenkenberg, "but when you're projecting for the future and in the dreaming stage, you don't let that stop your ideas."

"A thousand dollars a student or something like that. That's a big chunk of money," said Baudendistel.

Schenkenberg declined to comment on the particulars of any plan being discussed right now because she thought it was too early in the process to be making definitive statements.

She summed up the purpose of considering new computer systems right now, saying, "I think what it really boils down to with technology is how it can best serve the students and the teachers, and any kind of new technology that we bring in here, we're going to be sure that teachers are going to be able to use it to enhance their teaching, and it's going to take some time to figure that out."

by Brian Fallon

Calendar

Dec. 13-Dec. 20

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

Schedule R
 Reconciliation
 OEC Mtg @ AP
 Fine Arts Assembly @ AP
 V HOC vs Fox @ Affton @ 9:45 pm
 V/JV/C WR vs Ft. Zumwalt North @ 6 pm
 V SW @ Marquette Relays TBA
 V BB @ Webster Tourn. @ 5:45 or 9:15 pm
 Seasoned Fries & Lil' Charlie's Pizza

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

ACT Exam
 Faculty Christmas Party
 Habitat for Humanity Dedication
 V BB @ Webster Tourn. TBA
 V SW @ Marquette Relays @ 10 am
 V/JV Rifle @ State @ 10 am
 V WR @ Ritenour Tourn. @ 10 am
 Diving @ 1:30 pm Consolation and Finals

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Christmas Concert @ 1 pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

Schedule H
 Dress Down Day
 Eucharistic Adoration through 12/19
 New teachers Mtg @ 12:30 pm
 Eating Club @ Happy Joe's
 Burgers

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

Schedule R
 Senior Semester Exams
 Eucharist Adoration through 12/19
 Emergency Drill @ AP
 V/B BB vs CBC @ 4:30/6 pm
 C-Blue BB @ CBC @ 4:45 pm
 C-White BB vs CBC @ 3:30 pm
 V SW vs Parkway South @ FPCC @ 4 pm
 V/JV/C WR @ Vianney @ 6 pm
 Bosco Sticks & Toasted Ravioli

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Schedule R

Senior Semester Exams
 Eucharist Adoration through 12/19
 Freshman English Tutorial @ AP
 TAP Lunch Mtg.
 Onion Rings, Hot Wings, & Mac n' Cheese

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

Schedule R
 Senior Semester Exams
 Eucharist Adoration
 Rosary in Chapel @ AP
 Eating Club Nacho Sale @ AP
 V HOC vs DeSmet @ Queeny @ 7:30 pm
 V/JV/C WR @ Vianney @ 6 pm
 C-Blue BB vs Lutheran St. Charles @ 5:30 pm
 Pizza/Taco Sticks & Belifino Pizza

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

No School
 Have a wonderful Christmas Break
 V/B BB @ DeSmet @ 5:30/7 pm
 C-White BB vs Vianney @ 12:00 pm
 V SW @ Marquette @ 4 pm
 V/JV/C WR @ Parkway North @ 6pm

IN

(from 6)

"I didn't think it was that dangerous," he said.

Last year, Aliste asked Manker to look at the threshold. He told her that the spot was not an area of concern. However, she asked Tychonievich earlier this year to talk with the maintenance supervisor in the hopes of getting the problem fixed. Manker again said the area was of no great concern.

"I believe him," said Tychonievich.

Historically, 216c's problems stretch a little further back into the recent past than last year.

"This is actually the second time that this (floor) has (compressed in this way)," said former Principal Robert Bannister.

Bannister shed some light on the problem, for it occurred two years ago while he was principal. At that time, the auditorium was being renovated, creating the main office and the central classrooms, which end in the letter "c."

"At one point during the construction, the renovators had put in the floors and ceilings, but then the administration decided to put classrooms in those second

floor rooms," said Bannister.

"There weren't any doorways along (the upper corridor)," he explained, "so that when they put those little wedges in (between the doors and the corridors), they just put something underneath it."

Bannister went on to explain why the triangular area compresses. All other floors in the school are made of concrete, but those floors from the renovations are made of joists covered with planks of wood. That leaves an open space to be filled between the joists of the central rooms and the concrete of the hallways.

"They were using a lightweight filler," said Zarrick, because "there's a weight limit occupancy, so they wanted to go with something as light as possible."

Unfortunately the substance they used to fill the space has worn down over time: "If it keeps getting walked on," said Bannister, "then it keeps getting soft." Two years ago, Bannister had to fix the same problem.

Zarrick said that the problem area near the threshold of 216c has "settled too far."

He assured, "It's all structurally

sound."

Bannister is concerned with continuing to fix the problem. "(The administration) will have to continue to (fix that doorway) every couple years, or they'll have to try to put some kind of stronger brace on it."

Zarrick said Benoist plans to fill the area with light concrete, which has "more substance, or support value," according to Zarrick.

Although the new filler will be heavier, Zarrick assured, "The weight addition will be insignificant." The addition will have little effect on the classrooms and offices because the area to be repaired is small and the addition is only a few pounds.

Zarrick reported that the cost for the project will be "minimal." He guessed it will total a few hundred dollars, "nothing substantial."

While Benoist thought the school could still use the classroom prior to its fixing, which will occur over the holidays, Zarrick said they will still keep the room closed, so as not to make the problem worse.