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# Prep News



*"If nothing else, value the truth"*

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## Schenkenberg calls meeting of student leaders *Group to discuss standards for SLUH students*

**Denis Agniel**  
Editor

At Wednesday's all-school assembly, Principal Mary Schenkenberg stated her plans to convene a meeting of the school's leaders.

At the assembly, which recognized the seniors' return from Senior Project, Schenkenberg began her remarks by commending the returning seniors. She then announced her intentions to develop a set of standards for being a student at SLUH. She would formalize these standards with a meeting of the school's leaders.

She expounded further that afternoon: "In dealing with some of the student is-

sues we're dealing with right now, I realized I wanted to talk to the students to see what they feel being a SLUH student means." Schenkenberg said she was particularly concerned with the way students represent the school to "a larger community."

Although there may be more immediate causes for the particular timing of Schenkenberg's announcement, she first mentioned the possibility of such a meeting in a Nov. 30, 2001 interview conducted by the *Prep News*, when she said, "I think young people today need to spend some time thinking about and dialoguing about ethics, and I've thought about as a possibility of asking the SLUH students

to identify particular values that they could all agree upon that would guide decision-making at St. Louis U. High" (*Prep News*, vol. LXVI, issue 12).

In addition, the Respect Committee of last summer's task force has discussed meetings similar to this one. For those previous reasons and because of other recent occurrences, Schenkenberg decided to assemble the leaders of the school.

The leaders of the school whom she has chosen to be present at the meeting are: Student Council officers and class representatives, the president of each of the school's clubs, and the captains of each sports team, a group Schenkenberg

see **MEETING, 4**

## Budget concerns continue *Sheridan predicts \$100,000-\$150,000 shortfall*

**Tim Piechowski**  
Sports Editor

St. Louis U. High's administration of officials are trying to bring the budget and future expansion plans in line with current financial market conditions.

The school's endowment has failed to perform for over two and a half years. In response, the administration has budgeted for the reality that the endowment most likely will not bring about positive returns for some time to come.

"When I took this job," SLUH President Paul Sheridan S.J., said, "12 percent of revenues (from the endowment) would be applied to debt reduction, as well as operations. Two and a half years ago we brought it down to 5 percent. Now we're

down to zero percent."

By figuring zero percent returns from the endowment into the budget, the administration has been forced to realize an immediate budget shortfall.

The following gives an example of how much funding has been lost due to the lack of endowment performance. During the final three years in which 12 percent of endowment revenues were placed toward the endowment and debt reduction, the endowment had an approximate average value of \$34 million. In the budget, it was figured that 12 percent returns would be recognized for a fiscal year. Of that 12 percent, 5.75 percent of the endowment was expected to go towards the budget or approximately \$1,955,000 (\$34 million

see **MY TWO CENTS, 5**

## Seniors return from project

**Greg Fox and Dave Schwarz**  
Reporters

During the month of January, seniors spread out to seventy locations around the city and world to take part in their Senior Projects. Whether with malnourished children in Honduras or deaf children in St. Louis, the seniors worked for the past three weeks to fulfill their service requirement. Projects began as early as Jan. 2 and ended on Monday, which Senior Project Coordinator Jeff Harrison, S.J., called "the payoff day."

"It was a wide range (of locations) this year. We had kids with (the) elderly, and then you had developmentally-disabled people," said Harrison. Sixty-seven

see **NIORS, 5**

# Little, less, nothing: Pulse Radio fading

## *Lack of broadcasting options hurt station*

**Jonathan Kim**  
Reporter

Saint Louis University High School's student-run radio station, the Pulse, has been in a dormant state ever since the beginning of this school year, its office remaining locked throughout the day to the dismay of former Pulse disc jockeys.

Last year, under the direction of Mike Gau, the Pulse enjoyed an active broadcasting schedule of radio shows scheduled throughout the week for interested students and an internet broadcasting service, which gave students access to the Pulse online through Live365.com.

Now, the once-lively radio station has ceased broadcasting over both the radio and the internet, falling voiceless after the myriad songs playing last year. The Pulse's fundamental leader and director Luke Marklin said that the Pulse has regressed due to a series of misfor-

tunes.

According to Marklin, "One of the main goals this year was to be able to attain a Federal Communications Committee license for 100 watts to equip the Pulse with enough power to broadcast to the St. Louis area, but unfortunately we were denied the license because the Pulse's frequency would interfere with other previously-used frequencies."

The dismissal of the Pulse's FCC application, the result of a few years of planning, dealt a devastating blow to the Pulse, vanquishing one of its main goals since the formation of the radio station.

The termination of the internet broadcasting service abruptly discontinued the Pulse's internet broadcasting and left the station with only a weak broadcasting tower.

Marklin explained, "The reason why the internet broadcasting through Live365 ended is because the site gave the broad-

casting service to the Pulse free for a certain period of time, but after that time was used up, they started charging a monthly fee, which forced us to stop the service."

Although the Pulse has limited broadcast capability, Marklin said a lack of commitment and power prevents the Pulse from having a set show schedule.

"Last year, the problem with the Pulse was that the kids only showed up for a few weeks and left. Since all a person needed to do was fill in a time slot and get a show, people were not committed, and they bickered over showtimes. Once they realized that nobody could listen during their show, they lost interest altogether."

Students often held shows during study periods when the majority of students attended class; therefore, very few people tuned into shows, leading to disinterest which ultimately subverted the goals  
see DEADLINE, 5

# Weightlifting Club refocuses for 2003

**John Castelli**  
Reporter

Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, a group of students can usually be found in the weight room after school. Most lift weights in order to stay fit for the sport they play. Others, like junior John Block, lift not only for strength but also for fun.

About two years ago, during Block's freshman year, he and current seniors Luke Marklin and Chris Price decided to form a club whose primary function was weightlifting. They then persuaded Director of Diversity Spencer McCall to be the moderator of their new club.

The club never fully took root, however. For two years, McCall said, "There (has been) no progression," adding, "With the...time constraints and the space...it made it difficult for (students) to continue (participation in the club)."

There are usually forty to fifty students who regularly lift for their sports, in addition to the Weightlifting Club members, creating problems with availability

and wait-time for the equipment. McCall tried to minimize this factor by staying an extra half hour for the members.

Due to other commitments, McCall has handed his responsibilities over to Jesuit scholastic and theology teacher Nhan Pham. Pham's goals for the Weightlifting Club focus heavily on both health and social aspects. He sees weightlifting as important for building strength and confidence. Socially, the club functions in much the same way as any of the school's other clubs. Its members have become closer while also making new friends.

Block agreed, "(The club) adds a new aspect of friendship."

To increase participation, Pham would like to target those students who would not otherwise be interested in weightlifting,

those who might feel intimidated thinking they have to "be able to bench three hundred pounds."

McCall has suggested adding cardiovascular equipment to encourage newcomers to add to the variety of the workout. He has suggested to Pham the possibility of focusing more on fitness and supplementing with weights and conditioning.

Block said that one of this year's main goals for the club is to design a SLUH Weightlifting Club t-shirt. This idea was proposed last year, but no design was chosen.

Block and the club are currently revisiting the idea, but they need designs. Block also mentioned the possibility of a "Lift-a-thon" to raise money for charity.



Weights waiting to be lifted.

## EDITORIAL

### What should a student do to fight dishonesty?

On Wednesday, the senior class marched into the gymnasium to a standing ovation and triumphant music, surrounded by hundreds of students, teachers, and administrators praising their efforts on Senior Project. The ceremony was an effort to spotlight the service done by students. While some thought the procession was overdone, the scene itself was an appropriate recognition of the seniors' service work.

At the end of the ceremony, Dr. Schenkenberg announced a meeting that would involve the leaders of the school to discuss what being a SLUH student means. SLUH students do good work. But we are not perfect, and basic principles are violated within and outside of the school.

We allow dishonesty by not reporting it. By not making it unacceptable, we make it acceptable. We see students acting dishonestly, from copying homework to cheating on a quiz or test, or stealing from the cafeteria or from open lockers, and we rarely speak up or act to stop what we see.

Most of us are not thieves and cheaters. Most of us are morally opposed to dishonesty. Most of us believe in the values our school has taught. However, most of us also lack the courage to stand up for what we believe in and fight against dishonesty, especially when it is most difficult and most important to do so. While we might comfort ourselves with the knowledge that we personally haven't acted immorally, we often fail to oppose dishonesty when we see it. It's not easy to stand up for our values when doing so requires risking friendship. But if we only stick to our values when it's easy, are we sticking to them at all?

As a school, we feel the urge to protect each other. Our senses of moral responsibility conflict with our senses of friendship and loyalty, admirable qualities in themselves. We do not report dishonesty because we are aware of the serious consequences that may follow. It is understandable that we don't want our

classmates to fail a class or get suspended or even expelled. We want to protect our classmates from this sort of suffering.

But we should also feel a sense of moral responsibility. If we turn our heads and take the easy way out, we may save friendship and acceptance. But such friendship and acceptance would be a sham. Friendship is not based on ignoring values and altering character for acceptance. Nobody should scrap his morality to maintain a friendship. A friendship should build character, not destroy it.

If we are preparing to be leaders in the world beyond SLUH, is it acceptable for us to turn our heads away from dishonest or immoral actions? If someone had come forward during the Enron scandal, thousands of people could have kept their jobs and pensions. While a student who cheats or steals on a small scale now will probably not steal millions of dollars later in life, by not reporting dishonesty now we are not only accepting their actions in the present, but taking responsibility for unknown, potentially very serious actions in the future. If we are in the habit of accepting dishonesty and overlooking responsibility, will we change when we are the leaders of communities? If we are settling into the habits of self-protection and passivity now, will we change later in life?

What is the role of the conscientious student when he becomes aware of a rule being broken? Ideally, someone who cares about injustice should do whatever he can to stop it. It certainly wouldn't be easy to turn in—or, as some would say, betray—classmates, or even a friend. But if we do not have the courage to stand up for our values, values that SLUH teaches, values that a student at SLUH should have, and the values that we will be associated with for the rest of our lives merely by scribbling "SLUH" on a resume, we are betraying ourselves.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Aylward urges school to promote healthy food

To the Editor:

Over Christmas vacation, a conversation I had with the headmaster of a private prep school in San Jose, Calif., reinforced my conviction that SLUH needs to do a much better job of offering nutritionally-healthy lunch choices in our cafeteria. The headmaster from San Jose mentioned that his school offered many lunch choices, even vegetarian entrees, but that it did take some serious effort to offer quality food choices that conform to current experts' recommendations concerning a healthful diet. I also recently spoke to a teacher at John Burroughs who indicated that at Burroughs nutritious and balanced meals (i.e. low-fat, low salt, low-sugar content foods) are available.

While SLUH won't be able to provide through Food Service the type of meals offered at exclusive and expensive private schools, we should not ignore the studies and research that provide markers about the type of diet that does promote health,

nor should SLUH ignore the very real problem of overweight and obese children and adults in the U.S. (See *New York Times*, Jan. 13). SLUH has a responsibility to provide meals that are both appetizing and nutritious.

Let's face it: fat, salt, and sugar make food taste good, and many of our students will continue to choose to eat burgers, pizzas, colas, and other such foodstuffs morning, noon, and night. But let's not kid ourselves, either: too many calories and certain fats, and even salt and sugar, may cause, over time, serious health problems. Isn't it high time that SLUH recognizes the situation and initiates some changes? I wish that interested students, parents, teachers, the Food Service, and administrators would work together to promote a healthful diet at SLUH as a part of many good life-choices that students will face now and in the future.

Steve Aylward

# Grand Theft Auto: Baricevic's car swiped

**Brian Kane**  
Core Staff

On the morning of Sunday, Jan. 12, CJ Baricevic drove to SLUH to attend a leader's meeting for the senior Kairos retreat. When he arrived, the faculty lot was closed, so he parked in the alley on the east side of the school building.

Baricevic turned the car off, left his keys on the driver's seat, and entered the building. When he checked on his car approximately fifteen minutes later, it was gone.

According to Baricevic, a lot of his clothes were in the car, along with some of his brother Chris's school books and all of Chris's lacrosse equipment.

## MEETING

(from 1)

estimated at between 50 and 60 students.

On Thursday, Schenkenberg chose Feb. 13 as the date for the meeting. She has not chosen a format for it yet, but she intends it to be "kind of a dialogue."

The meeting will be primarily informative for the principal. She said she plans to go into the meeting not with an agenda, but "to learn a little bit, to listen to the students, to hear what they have to say...(I have) a desire to talk to students about the expectations of SLUH students."

Schenkenburg said this type of conversation is her preference in dealing with the student body: "It's sort of the way I like to deal with students...to listen to their perspectives and what they have to say."

Many are unsure of how the meeting will go. Some students think there will be too many in attendance at the meeting. STUCO Sports Commissioner Dave Mahach described his vision of the meeting as "disorder, a big mess," adding, "I'm not a big fan (of the idea of a meeting). I don't think club presidents should have the same pull as STUCO officers."

"I'm just kind of confused about what (Schenkenberg) wants to do," said STUCO President Casey Barrale. Others expressed the same sentiments.

"There's probably driver's licenses from three different states in there, and at least twelve dollars in change," speculated Baricevic.



Dude, where's my car?

Though he lost some of his school books on the day before the first semester exams, it did not greatly hinder Chris's

In spite of that confusion, Barrale looks forward to defining the role of a SLUH student in the face of conduct at hockey games and other recent issues. "A Jr. Bill looks out for people besides himself... We have to be self-conscious of what we do outside of SLUH."

Hockey and water polo captain Phil Abram shared Barrale's optimism: "It seems like a good idea. It will probably be helpful. She'll be able to get some good ideas." Abram also hoped the meeting would involve underclassmen.

Soccer captain Matt McCarthy said, "I think that (the meeting's) a good thing. It can't hurt to have a meeting to talk about

studying. Other students helped by giving him copies of class notes. Furthermore, Russian teacher Rob Chura lent him a copy of the junior Russian book, and he acquired a physics book from a senior who dropped the class after the first semester. The Baricevics are currently awaiting more information regarding insurance coverage on the lacrosse equipment.

There were no security guards on duty at the time, according to Director of Security Charlie Clark. Since the theft, the normal Sunday security shifts have begun at 8 a.m. when events are scheduled in the afternoon. In the past, the shift would not begin until the afternoon.

"We have addressed the issue regarding security on Sundays," said Clark.

The police were notified of the theft, but the car has not been recovered.

what's going on around the school."

Of what it means to be a SLUH student, McCarthy said, "You're a SLUH student wherever. You have to think about what you represent and what you stand for."

Dan Lieser, president of the Science Club, said he plans to bring his experience from the Respect Committee to the meeting. Said Lieser, "Being a SLUH student means fostering a respect for yourself, authority, peers, and those different from yourself. All of the clubs have their opinions on how to respect different things."

## Tragedy averted: 216c fixed

**Tom Fontana**  
Reporter

Students attending classes in room 216c no longer have to "walk the plank" to enter their classroom. Last weekend, after they had repaired the floor, workers removed the wooden plank covering the small sinking area at the threshold of the room.

The floor had begun to sink near the doorway because that area was supported by a soft filler material. Over time, the everyday student traffic wore the material

down so that the floor began to sink.

Last weekend, workers repaired the damaged area of the floor. They installed new wooden supports to bolster the floor and prevent it from sinking again. Peter Benoist of Hercules Construction Management Co. arranged the repairs.

Facilities Director Patrick Zarrick said that Physics Classroom 221c also has this problem. Though the damage in 221c is less pronounced, preemptive repairs are still necessary. Zarrick expects the work on Room 221c to be completed this weekend.

## DEADLINE

(from 2)  
of the Pulse.

The Pulse received all of its broadcasting equipment from SLUH and has of a yearly \$500 stipend, but since the formation of the Pulse, no one has inquired about or requested the use of the funds.

Brian Sweeney, the Vice President of Administration, said, "SLUH is willing to give the Pulse \$500 until the end of the school year on June 3, 2003, but no one has ever turned in any budget requests or contacted me in order to talk about funds. Since no one has ever come up to discuss the funds required for the Pulse, we really are not aware of the needs of the station."

Marklin could possibly use this source of money as he tries to find another internet broadcasting site, but he says the focus of the Pulse has changed from broadcasting to the wider St. Louis area to broadcasting internally to SLUH. Before the seniors' January hiatus, Marklin discussed with Principal Mary Schenkenberg the possibility of running a wire through the school to an optimal transmitting point. Schenkenberg said that she has not had the time to deal with the Pulse's proposition yet; however, SLUH might re-wire

## NIORS

(from 1)  
of the sites were in the metro area, one in Kansas City, another at a parish in England, and one in Honduras. While there wasn't a majority of seniors in any one field, working with children and the elderly were by far the most popular choices.

Student opinion about the project was positive. "It was a great experience," said senior Chris Dulac. Thomas Moore echoed Dulac's statement, saying, "I think everyone enjoyed it. I enjoyed playing with the children." Both Dulac and Dan Mooney agreed that the children with whom they worked taught them patience and gave them a positive outlook on life. "They gave me an appreciation for how lucky I am," said Dulac.

In addition to the seniors enjoying the experience, they did their work so well

the school, and the Pulse's proposition would have to be a part of a bigger plan. If this plan is successful, Marklin hopes this point would enable the reception of the Pulse from the cafeteria, and students could tune into the Pulse during lunch in the cafeteria instead of CDs.

Although the feasibility and practicality of the plan is problematic, Marklin stated, "Before we bring back the shows, I want to make a tangible audience, because once people feel that there is an actual audience listening to them, they will have more commitment."

Attracting interest quite possibly poses the greatest challenge for the Pulse because at the beginning of the year, Marklin felt that not enough interest arose to establish any committee or organize any movement.

Many of the former Pulse disc jockeys are dissatisfied with the lack of broadcasting and shows, and the seeming lack of action to ameliorate the station's stagnant state. Excluded from the Pulse studio and disturbed by the lack of communication between former members and current leaders of the Pulse, former members have complained, wanting to see visible progress on the radio station.

that "some were even offered jobs," according to Rebecca Ferrigni, another Senior Project Coordinator. "I've heard no bad things whatsoever," said Harrison.

To welcome the seniors back, the student body gathered in the gym on Wednesday for a prayer service and assembly. During the assembly, a slideshow was shown which highlighted some bright spots of the project. In addition, seven seniors addressed the student body.

Originally, only the juniors attended such an assembly, which occurred during activity period and was started while art teacher John Mueller was coordinator. This is the first year that the entire student body has attended the assembly.

"It was nice to see how the seniors worked on their project," said sophomore Phil Faber.

## MY TWO CENTS

(from 1)  
times 5.75 percent). The other 6.25 percent was reserved for paying down other debt or adding to the endowment fund.

Over the past three years the school has tried to reduce the approximate \$1,955,000 gap which endowment shortfall created.

"We will come very close to a balanced budget this year. Last year we were surprised because of the basement, that became a \$1.6 million problem which we weren't expecting," Sheridan said.

The basement excavation was supposed to cost \$300,000.

"Last year, outside of the basement, we came to within \$500,000 of our budget," Sheridan optimistically continued. "This year we should come very close to balancing it, within \$100,000-\$150,000, which on an \$11 million budget is very good."

In order to bring the budget down to achievable levels, the administration has worked on reducing spending and looked for more donations to the school.

"You have to examine how a school can go to a zero base expectation of income from equity investments in a two-year period to balancing its books. One half of the equation is reducing non-essential expenses and being more efficient. The other half of the equation is increasing income. That is a statement that says we have very generous alumni, parents, and friends of the school," Sheridan said.

The majority of inefficiency cuts came this past year as all departments were required to cut their budgets by 10 percent. No cuts are planned for academic departments next year.

"Academic budgets were already fairly lean to begin with," SLUH's Accountant Brian Sweeney said.

Since these budget cuts were announced last year, the administration has further reduced inefficiencies by instituting combined mailings, printing, and in-house maintenance.

One prime example of cutting inefficiencies is the care of the school's athletic fields. Whereas in the past, pri-

see **KENT BROCKMAN, 6**

## KENT BROCKMAN

(from 5)  
vate companies were called in to manage the fields, SLUH groundskeeping crews will take care of the fields in years to come.

Utilities have been used more efficiently, such as during the summer when only portions of the school in use are air-conditioned. Additionally, when school ends each day, temperature controls are adjusted, since the school is relatively empty. The administration has not changed the school's thermostat to save money while school is in session.

Budget-cutting has also come in the form of cuts in financial aid. In past years a little over \$900,000 was given out in financial aid.

"This year we gave out around \$800,000 in financial aid. I believe we'll try to keep it at those levels next year. However, we have no idea when we do admissions what the freshmen's needs are," Sheridan said.

Admissions at SLUH are still need-blind.

Two other issues have made balancing the budget slightly more complex: the school's property ownership and its debt load.

The school has faced some difficulties with its properties behind the school. The warehouse that students refer to as the "hitting facility" housed a tenant who moved out in November 2002. The school is currently looking for new tenants but has found none that need the entire warehouse space.

In 1994, the school issued \$15 million in bonds, and those funds were used to renovate the Performing Arts Center. In 1999, it was advantageous for the school to refund (refunding a bond is similar to refinancing the debt on a house) its bonds because it could receive a lower interest rate. When those bonds were refunded, the school also issued \$3 million in more bonds to purchase properties behind the school. Unfortunately, the school has not been able to capitalize on the even lower interest rates of today's bond market, as current tax law states that a bond can only be refunded once during its lifetime.

By far the school's largest expenditure is teachers' salaries, estimated at approximately \$7 million annually.

Administration officials were unable to comment directly on the status of teacher salaries and raises for next year, as the Budget and Finance Committee will meet on Feb. 19. The Budget and Finance Committee's recommendations must be approved by the Executive Committee on Feb. 26, and, finally, the Board of Trustees must approve the budget on March 5.

However, Sheridan did say, "We're certainly not going to go backwards (on salaries)."

With the stock market downturn, expansion plans have been altered, pushing back Vision 2000 further still. This summer, the school and the Saint Louis Science Center will begin their plans for a parking garage by altering the Science Center's Oakland lot so that it cuts through to Berthold Avenue. The parking garage itself, to be placed on the north side of Berthold, is slated to begin construction in 2005. In a May 18, 2001 *Prep News* article, Sheridan cited 2004 as an approximate date to begin construction of the garage. (*Prep News*, Vol. LXVI Issue 30)

The renovation of the track, new soccer fields, and a baseball diamond are now slated to begin in 2006. The Student Life Center, for student activities, has no date set for construction, but Sheridan tentatively believes it could be under construction by 2008 or 2009.

"We still have to get our campaign commitments completed. We are still two or three years away from completing our (fundraising)," Sheridan said. "I think the (Vision) campaign will be completed by the time the parking garage is completed."

Sheridan also said that the administration had mailed letters to ensure current commitments to Vision 2000 are still in place, and that, on the whole, commitments are still intact.

New technology in the classroom is another concern for the administration.

"When you talk about technological innovation, you are really talking about huge investments," Sheridan said. "You have to be very careful that you don't get too far ahead of the pack or too far behind."

Technology Committee Chair Peggy Pride noted that interactive blackboards could cost between \$5000 and \$6000 for each classroom. Additionally, she said that to set up an intraschool broadcasting studio, which the committee has been discussing, could cost between \$25,000-\$30,000.

She commented on current technological budget restraints, saying, "You can't spend, say, \$100,000 on technology when you may lose faculty members. You have to weigh the costs versus the benefits."

Over the next few years the administration is hoping that profitability will return to the endowment. As late as this past September, administration officials had 100 percent of the endowment placed in equities (stocks and mutual funds), under recommendations of the financial consulting firm Hammond and Associates.

In October 2002, all new monies donated to the school were placed into fixed income bonds. Currently the endowment consists of 50 percent equities and 50 percent bonds. There are no plans for SLUH to be 100 percent vested in bonds or equities again in the future.

"The way that we accomplished this switch in the mix was done in a very prudent fashion," Sweeney noted. "We didn't sell any equities at their low point. What we did was, as any new contributions to the school came in, those new funds were invested in fixed income instruments."

For the fiscal year 2004, which begins on July 1, 2003, the administration hopes to present the Board of Trustees with a balanced budget.

"I believe that, for the 2004 fiscal year, we will present a balanced budget to the Board of Trustees in May," Sweeney said. "With the cost-cutting measures that are in place, with the anticipated tuition increases, and with anticipated faculty salary levels for next year, we should be able to present a balanced budget."

Sweeney denied comment on a preliminary number as to how much tuition will be increased next year.

# Swimmingbills overpower Cape Central foes

**Michael Leuchtmann**  
Reporter

How does a swim team get outscored 1294 to 876 and still win all of its meets? The Swimbills know how to do it, and they did just that this past week. The Jr. Bills glided past four teams in only two meets.

Last Friday, the Fishbills packed up their goggles, fins, and water wings and headed down to Cape Girardeau for their annual meet in "the bubble" against Cape Central. This year, however, they were not alone. They were joined by MICDS, due to a scheduling conflict, and Poplar Bluff.

The Quad-meet went extremely well for the Bubblebills. The Jr. Bills were able to show off a lot of their talent in the large pool underneath the white dome. The meet ran long because each event had two separate races to accommodate the numerous swimmers from the four teams.

The meet was over well before the final race. The Turbobills had stolen the

show and ended up with a final score of 768. Cape Central came in second with 537, followed by MICDS's 402, and Poplar Bluff with 278. The team recorded nine State qualifications during the meet, including all three team relays and two by sophomore Tim Heafner.

After the meet, breaking tradition, the team did not have a meal on the pool deck with Cape Central because of the extra teams. Instead, the Jr. Bills invaded Pasta House and dined there. Finally, after dinner the group headed home and arrived in St. Louis around midnight.

Having been inspired by the big meet and the movies watched on the bus, the team met up with Chaminade on Monday, January 27.

Things didn't look so great for the Jr. Bills before the meet began. Illness plagued the team. Junior Kurt Doll was home sick and fellow junior Nathan Harris was present and swam four events despite his sickness. With two major competitors ill, some worried.

The Longbills soon realized they

worried in vain as the team pulled together and still raced to eight State qualifying times. The relays accounted for three, captain Tom Heafner had two, and junior Gabe Toennies, sophomore wonder Adam Trafton, and Tim Heafner got one apiece. The team ended up topping Chaminade's score of 77 with their own 108.

Captain Kevin McEvoy said, "Even with one of our pre-meet problems, our team came together and really showed them. Chaminade is in our division, and it is a big win."

The Jr. Bills are feeling fine with only a couple showdowns left until the final battle of Missouri High School Boys Swimming. The Splashbills are ready to boil the water at the St. Peter's Rec-Plex this Saturday at 7:00 against MICDS and Hickman. The team is hoping for fan support, especially at the MCC Championship and State meets, which they feel they have a chance of winning.

Nic Rottler said, "We believe we can do it, we just need to prove it to those who think we can't."

# Busiebills beat DeSmet, 3-1, for Jesuit Cup

**Brian Fallon, Nick Odem, & Chris Wojcicki**  
Core Staff, Reporters

The wooden bleachers began to creak as hundreds poured into Affton Ice Rink Saturday for the match against supreme rival DeSmet. Unlike ordinary hockey games, SLUH was battling for the bragging rights for winning the Jesuit Cup in back-to-back years. The game held other importance for the Jr. Bills, who needed revenge for a brutal defeat from earlier in the season.

The two teams came out and played physical, hard-fought hockey for almost two full periods before a goal was scored with 3:21 left in the second. Freshman Eddie Effinger broke the scoring drought, beating the Spartan goaltender.

Tim Mudd then extended the lead early in the third period, taking advantage of a DeSmet turnover and scoring on the resulting breakaway. Following Mudd's

goal, the Jr. Bills bunkered down on defense, allowing the only DeSmet goal with only 2:11 left.

While that goal brought the Spartans to within one goal, it was only 44 seconds later that Junior Brad Naert stretched the SLUH lead back to two goals.

Much of the team credited the victory to the spectacular goaltending of Charlie Effinger, including his brother who said, "If it weren't for Charlie, we would have easily lost that game." Effinger successfully saved 30 out of the 31 on-goal shots. Coach Charlie Busenhart called Effinger's goaltending, "absolutely superb."

The team came into Tuesday's game against Webster with high hopes of earning the third seeding in the upcoming playoffs. The first period of the game was again scoreless, but marked by hard-hitting and transition play which was shut down by both goaltenders.

Tim Mudd opened the second period with a shot just under the crossbar, beat-

ing the Statesmen goaltender. Webster came back soon after, scoring on a 2-on-1 opportunity. Before the end of the period though, the Puckbills came back with another goal, a Brad Naert rebound goal from Matt Pijut and Tim Mudd.

However, Webster was able to tie the game at 2 halfway through the third period. That tie now puts the Junior Bills' chance as third seed for the playoffs in jeopardy. The team plays its final regular season game tonight against Vianney at 7 p.m. at the Affton rink, still hoping for high seeding in the playoffs.

## Announcements

The United States Military Academy (West Point) is hosting an Academic Workshop June 7 - 13, 2003. Juniors should sign up in the Counseling Office.

**Attention Juniors:** If you want to do your senior project in Honduras in January 2004, meetings are scheduled for Feb. 4, 7, & 10 in M218 during activity period.

# Basketbills fall to CBC, defeat St. Mary's

**Kyle Poelker  
Reporter**

The Basketbills rolled into yet another stop along their line of MCC games last Friday, taking on CBC in the Cadets' gym.

The game started off well for both teams, the score see-sawing back and forth in the first quarter, leading to a Jr. Bill one-point lead at quarter's end. The second quarter, on the other hand, was not as happy for the U. High.

While the Jr. Bills failed to score for five straight minutes, CBC took advantage of the opportunity to take an eight-point lead. Finally, junior Jeff Howenstein made a power move which broke the Jr. Bills' drought, and made the score 23-17 CBC.

Then, just a minute later, captain Jason LaFlore broke down his CBC defender and beat the buzzer with a floater to cut the Jr. Bill deficit to only four points at the half, 23-19.

The Jr. Bills' intensity continued into

the second half, when super sophomore Dave Goettelmann started the half with a three-point bomb, pulling the Jr. Bills to within one. Throughout the rest of the

though there were no way to stop the CBC scoring attack.

Despite the incredibly cold fourth quarter, LaFlore played an outstanding game, scoring 21 points. But no other Junior Bill seemed able to pick up the slack. The Jr. Bills only played three significant quarters of basketball, and against a team ranked in the state's top ten, that isn't good enough. As junior guard Andy Lowes said, "We played all right. If we would have played all four quarters, we could have won."

Tuesday night offered what many thought should have been a gimme game for the Basketbills, with an all-city match against the St. Mary's Dragons. The game, however, wasn't so easy. The undersized but spirited

St. Mary's team competed with the Jr. Bills until the end. Even though the Jr. Bills opened up a four-point lead at the quarter, St. Mary's started to take control throughout the second, and it took Phinney Troy's deft touch in the post to convert a  
**see KNICKS, 9**



On Thursday, Jr. Bill rebounding phenom Phineas Troy practices free throws.

quarter, the Cadets and Jr. Bills continued to trade baskets, with the quarter ending with a two-point CBC lead.

But the fourth quarter proved to be the end for SLUH. They went completely cold, scoring 13 points to CBC's 20. There was no offensive spark, and it seemed as

# Spandexbills show power at MICDS Tourney

**Mike Smallwood  
Reporter**

The Wrestlingbills had an active last week with a schedule jammed with several events going into the district tournament.

Last Thursday evening, the Jr. Bills traveled to Chaminade to take on the Red Devils. With several byes in the Chaminade lineup and pins by Jeremy Bledsoe (103), Nick Born (125), Kyle Gonnerman (130), Mike Smith (145), Greg Leibach (189), and David Caldwell (215), the team left no doubt that they would indeed be victorious. The Jr. Bills took the dual meet 61-16.

The action continued into Friday and Saturday with the annual MICDS Tournament. Tournament officials decided to go to a tough sixteen-man bracket that would provide every wrestler with several matches.

The team had a great first round with seven wrestlers advancing from pins they earned and five more due to byes. However, the test would come in the second round where only Rob Nahlik (119), Chris Wagnitz (152), and John Stathopoulos (275) would be victors and continue in the championship bracket.

For those who lost, however, the tournament was far from over. Each still had a chance at third place if he were able to wrestle well in the consolation bracket.

Much of the team again looked impressive in wrestleback consolation matches. Bledsoe turned his opponent several times for an 18-6 major decision, and seniors Gonnerman and Justin Clerc had no problems with their opponents with pins at 3:34 and :46, respectively. Also, junior Mike Smith continued some of his recent success with a pin at 1:33, which he attributes to "just hitting moves as (he) feels them."

Nahlik, Wagnitz, and Stathopoulos all easily won their next round matches to continue on their way to the championship finals. Bledsoe, Gonnerman, Clerc, John Kister (171), and Leibach (189) all had to fight their way through the consolation bracket to make to their final matches.

Curdts said "We were able to score some significant points in the wrestlebacks" with some big wins from experienced wrestlers, putting the team in the running for a top-five finish.

Bledsoe, Gonnerman, and Kister would all earn 6th place while Clerc won by an 11-8 decision to earn fifth place. Leibach finished in fourth place. Nahlik's championship match was one of the most anticipated matches, and it lived up to the hype. Nahlik would be facing his first challenge of the tournament in the form of Rob Sherry of Fort Zumwalt North, who

**see HEADLOCK, 10**

# Racquetbills finish season undefeated

## TEAM TURNS EYES TO TOWARDS STATE ON SATURDAY

**Chris Guilfooy**  
**Reporter**

There are four large tournaments in each racquetball season: Hendren Invitational, Winter Rollout, Top Seed, and State. Last year, the state champion Bills captured the grand slam, winning all four tournaments. This past Saturday, the Racquetbills entered the Top Seed with half of a grand slam win, looking towards the third piece of the puzzle.

With junior and top-seed Phil Mathews, senior Chris Guilfooy, and junior Eric Weber playing in the tournament, the Jr. Bills had a fantastic shot at victory. Even though Weber lost in the semifinals to his rival Charlie Hostman of DeSmet, Mathews and Guilfooy entered the finals looking strong.

Not only did SLUH look determined for a win with two players in the finals, but DeSmet and Vianney each had two players in the finals. Therefore, two first places would win the tourney or else a tie would occur. Guilfooy entered final at the top of his game, playing strong and defeating his Vianney opponent Dave Deno 15-4, 14-15, 11-0.

However, Mathews had a more difficult time in his match. After a slow start, Mathews lost the first game. Yet with his strong ability to adapt, Mathews pulled

out a close one in the second game and won 15-14. Due to a few injuries and a crazy tie-breaker that ended in a slippery fashion, Mathews' victory slipped away as he lost the match 8-11.

Therefore, as DeSmet and SLUH each had one first place and a second place, they ended up with the same amount of points and a tie was announced. However, a first place is a first place, so the Jr. Bills still have a shot at the grand slam yet again this year.

Not only does the grand slam show how well a team performs, but a perfect season with an untouchable 10-0 record also shows strength. Within the past two weeks, the Jr. Bills have faced their two toughest opponents, Vianney and DeSmet, charging out of each match with a strong victory. After handling DeSmet 5-2, the Racquetbills faced an aggressive Vianney team Monday.

The doubles team, Jon Mills and Tony Sneed, pulled out a huge comeback victory after losing the first game 15-10 by winning 15-2, then 11-2 in the tie-breaker.

Having lost junior John Reagan to a broken right thumb, JV-17 star Mike Grosch stepped up and took on the number six seed against Vianney. Even though he lost, Grosch played quite strongly, and barely lost in his tie-breaker battle. Fourth seed senior Mike Brand and junior Tom Carrow also lost their matches in close

fashion. Therefore, the Jr. Bills were down 1-3, needing to win their next three matches to pull out a win.

And a win they got. Mathews easily handled opponent Ryan Glasscock by winning in two games. Guilfooy took on his opponent from the finals of Top Seed; with determination and some pretty pinch shots, Guilfooy won 15-5, 15-4.

Third-seed Weber played very consistently during his match. Even with a pair of shaky losses to DeSmet last week, Weber upset his Vianney opponent, winning 15-4, 15-3.

The Racquetbills have shown strong and smart play, agility, and a will to take it to State all year. Brand spoke of the Jr. Bills stating, "Each seed has some tough contenders to deal with. As long as we stay focused and play our game, State is ours to keep."

Tomorrow, Feb. 1, the Jr. Bills have a chance to win the grand slam and pull home their seventh state championship in the past nine years. With good draws in the tournament, the Racquetbills are determined to bring a victory home. Tomorrow is your chance to cheer the Jr. Bills to victory at Concord Sports Plex at Tesson Ferry Road and I-270. It is an all day event, so stop by and help the Jr. Bills bring home another victory.

## PN NIGHTBEAT

The racquetbills closed out a perfect 10-0 season last night with a 6-1 victory over CBHS. The bills looked quite strong and are now ready for the state tournament, which takes place Saturday, February 1st at Concord Sports Complex. The only loss against CB came from junior John Reagan, who put up a great fight as he played opposite-handed against his opponent. Reagan, who broke his right thumb last week, will help to be the final piece of the puzzle for the Jr. Bills to win in state on Saturday.

## KNICKS

(from 8)  
layup that put the Jr. Bills up by only one at the half.

Summing up the first half, junior team manager Tim Simon said that the Jr. Bills, "needed to pick up the intensity in order to win." For the most part, they answered the call. Pat Ostopowicz and Phinney Troy picked up the slack, scoring 22 and 18 points respectively, and the Jr. Bills ended up victors by the score 57-48. Though the game was hard-fought, and SLUH was without the services of Goettleman, the score was a lot closer

than it should have been. As Lowes said, "We should have smoked them."

However, the Jr. Bills still had some positives to build on.

For example, for the first time in recent memory, the Jr. Bills had two significant scorers, something that needs to happen on a consistent basis for any MCC success. Also, while a little flustered, the Jr. Bills overcame their poor first half effort to win the game. Hopefully, these two qualities will prevail tonight, when the Jr. Bills take on Jeff City here at SLUH at 7:00.

## HEADLOCK

(from 8)  
is ranked sixth in the state in Class 2. Nahlik got off to a slow start, getting taken down twice in the first period and trailing 4-2 going into the second. Nahlik chose to start the second period in a down position and got an immediate reversal to take control and tie up the score. From there, Nahlik was able to turn Sherry to his back and earn three nearfall points. However, Nahlik made an important error: a clasp that would give Sherry one penalty point. Sherry tied up the score 7-7 in the third when he earned an escape which would force the match to sudden-death overtime.

Nahlik really “stepped up,” as Curdt put it. He put pressure on Sherry in overtime until he was able to get a quick step to the left side of Sherry and get a takedown for two points and the exciting win.

Wagnitz would have a tougher match in the finals. He unfortunately would lose by technical fall, but the match was still valuable to Wagnitz. If he wants to take his wrestling to the “next level,” as Curdt told him following the match, he “can’t hit a good move and then pause.”

Wagnitz reiterated this point, saying that he “needs to learn to go from move to move, like my opponent did against me. I just have to be more aggressive.”

Stathopoulos would once again show his ever-improving patience in matches, which keeps him out of trouble. He got a takedown late in the first period but ran out of time before he could breakdown his opponent and turn him to his back. He then allowed his opponent to escape, hoping to take him down straight to his back, and earn the pin. However, there would be no further scoring in the match. Stathopoulos claimed his second straight MICDS tournament title with a 2-1 victory.

Overall, the team finished in 6th place, just a mere two points from fifth, against some quality programs such as McCluer

North, CBC, MICDS, and Fort Zumwalt North.

One of the most anticipated duels of the year occurred Wednesday night when the Jr.Bills faced the Spartans of DeSmet. It was Senior Night for the nine seniors that have dedicated so much effort to the



Justin Clerc tries to pin his opponent.

team’s first points with an 8-5 victory. Senior Captain Stathopoulos (275) then attempted to fire up the team to make a comeback with a pin in 1:33. Born (119) pinned in 1:25, while Nahlik (125) controlled the entirety of his match for a 7-3 decision. Mahoney added to the team total with a 5-3 win after turning up his intensity in the second period to earn an escape and then followed that up with a hard takedown.

However, the Jr. Bills did not prevail falling 42-21 to a talented DeSmet squad. Curdt commented that the “score did not really reflect how close some of these matches were.”

Despite the tough loss, the team focuses ahead to the district tournament, which is next weekend. In this tournament, each wrestler must begin his journey to the state tournament. With several wrestlers looking to qualify for State, all must begin to take on the tougher, more aggressive mentality that will give them a chance to succeed against very tough competition. As assistant coach Todd Clements has told the team on several occasions, “There can be only one.” Now it’s up to each wrestler to make sure he succeeds.

ever-improving SLUH program over the past few years. After several tough losses early in the match—including a 4-2 overtime loss for of Wagnitz—Kister got the

## ROBOTICS CLUB NAME OUR ROBOT CONTEST

The Robotics Club is looking for a name for SLUH’s entry into the FIRST Robotic’s “Stack Attack” competition. If you think you have a clever and original name for the robot, you can drop your

suggestion off in the Robot box in the Science Office, or with Junior David Burghoff in homeroom M208 or Senior Justin Luner in homeroom M112. All suggestions are due by Feb. 14.

Robot Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

# Complex reproductive issues arise during Project

**Matt Hoffman**  
**Editor in Chief**

Last week, approximately thirty students travelled to Washington, D.C., on the 30th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* to march for an end to legalized abortion in the United States. On my Senior Project at Brooking Park, a retirement and nursing home, I befriended Dorothy Roudebush, a woman who volunteered for Maternal Health, fought for women's right to have abortions, and later helped organize and run Planned Parenthood in St. Louis. Although she fought for issues that are directly opposed to ideals of the Catholic church, she is a dignified, intelligent, and conscientious person.

While the Roman Catholic Church does not advocate abortion or artificial contraception as acceptable means of birth control, Planned Parenthood advocates both. However, the issues surrounding Planned Parenthood and abortion are complex, more complex than most realize or want to realize.

In the 1930s Roudebush joined Maternal Health, the initial name of the organization that would become Planned Parenthood, because she had concerns about women's rights. "Before I knew there was such a thing as Planned Parenthood, I was concerned about the well-being of women who were often called upon to both work, to support families, and to bear children and continue to help feed the children, often to the detriment of the mother's health," said Roudebush.

At that time, many women knew very little about sexuality. "It was a subject that was not studied or necessarily passed on in families," said Roudebush. "There was a lack of understanding of the reproductive cycle in the family." According to Roudebush, women in the thirties lacked medical attention. Today, public schools offer sex education, and medical attention is more widely available to pregnant women.

When Roudebush first started fighting for what she saw as women's rights, she faced opposition, and would for much of her adult life. At the beginning of her volunteer work, Roudebush controversially advocated the use of artificial contraception as a means of helping women.

Said Roudebush, "One of the ways to avoid pregnancy is to practice contraception. It's not the only way."

While artificial contraception can potentially help women by preventing unwanted pregnancy, the Catholic Church is against using artificial contraception as a means of birth control.

From a Catholic perspective, "Sexual intercourse within marriage is a powerful, real symbol. It's something which actually makes, sustains the marriage. Sexual intercourse is an absolute unconditional 'yes' people say to each other on a physical level. Artificial contraception puts an artificial barrier between a man and a woman," said theology teacher Jim Linhares.

Roudebush certainly does not view sex as trivial: "I think that the relationship between men and women is a very important one. Men and women should be ready to consider the possible consequences of the relationship: pregnancy and the possible loss of

respect for the sexual partner." Roudebush sees sex as a matter of personal choice. "It must be arrived and any thought on the matter must be arrived on an individual basis," said Roudebush.

Roudebush also sees the decision to terminate a pregnancy as a matter of personal choice. While abortion was illegal she fought to legalize it. She also helped organize and volunteered for Planned Parenthood in Missouri, which supports abortion.

"Planned Parenthood is an organization with a big mission, and they do all kinds of things. One of the things they do is pretty actively support abortion services and counsel young women about pregnancy, and one of the options they provide is advising women to seek abortion services, as I understand it," said Linhares.

However, Linhares concedes that Planned Parenthood does offer some services which may be important. "I'm absolutely sure there are a lot of great human beings who are motivated from an altruistic desire to serve women and want to protect women who want information," he said.

Because Planned Parenthood actively supports abortion, the church does not accept it. Said Linhares, "It would be like an organization saying, 'We're involved in assassinating people in some parts of the world...but we're also feeding people. So, Roman Catholic Church, can you support us because we feed lots of hungry people?' Answer: no."

Regardless of the Church's stance on Planned Parenthood, they do not condemn the workers or volunteers of the organization. "The Church might officially recognize that there's good people and good work being done."

The disagreement on abortion, or the termination of pregnancy, relates to the question of when life begins.

According to the Church, "Meaningful human life, unique human life, unrepeatable human life ruled by God comes into existence at the moment of conception. Therefore, from that moment on you respect it," said Linhares.

However, many people believe that the question is up to the individual. "We thought that that view was a matter of individual choice. I think it's very difficult to get agreement on that," said Roudebush.

Because Roudebush believes that when life starts is a matter of personal opinion, she does not have a problem with the Catholic Church's holding of their views. "That's certainly the privilege of the Catholic Church," said Roudebush. "I think their views are worthy (of being) considered."

Although the church does not see termination of pregnancy as a matter of personal choice, the church does not directly campaign against Planned Parenthood. "The church has no enforcement. The only way the Roman Catholic Church fights for structural change is the way the voters do: they write; they teach; they declare; they urge, so the church has urged that support for Planned Parenthood from the government level be minimized."

Planned Parenthood and abortion are fiercely debated and will continue to be fiercely debated because both sides are fueled by desire to secure justice, protect women, and preserve human dignity.

## SENIOR PROJECT

## “My Dungeon Shook”: Loyola Academy

**Geoff Brusca**  
Editor

According to the latest Census figures, St. Louis is the fourth most segregated city in America. I don't know of a black family that lives in my neighborhood. I don't know if one would be accepted if they moved in. Their moving vans would get sidelong looks from joggers in Nike running shoes.

None of that really went through my head as I chose Loyola Academy as my Project site. All I thought was: in the city; tutor and teacher's aide; sixth, seventh, and eighth graders. I guess the reality of working with 47 black kids didn't really strike me until I walked in, dropped my coat in the teachers' lounge, and stepped into the middle of a breakfast where 47 kids sounded very different from me.

I'd always felt that I understood a lot about African-American culture, about the history and the pain. Like a lot of white people I know, I was shocked by the recent Trent Lott scandal, shocked to find racism still an open wound, to find people who were still that backward. Even though, I don't understand it when black kids call each other “nigger,” and it makes me mad when Mr. Grier alludes to how I can't understand some things about his experiences just because I'm white and he's black, I've always been proud to fight racism, proud of being a forward-thinking, open-minded, accepting liberal.

It was the study hall that first day when I realized that I was the only white kid in that seventh grade room full of black kids. And that their facial and verbal expressions were alien to me, their gestures and shoes and mannerisms something I didn't understand.

While writing this reflection I talked to Thomas Moore about if it feels weird to be black and going to school here. He said it used to be back when he was a freshman and a sophomore, that he was afraid people would think he had a single mom, that he'd impregnate a girl at sixteen. Freshman year is hard enough and scary enough for any new kid coming here. But imagine it if you're black. Imagine what it's like to, all of a sudden, be surrounded by white kids, so that you look different from most everyone, too. Imagine what a wall that could be.

And then I was at Loyola, and the kids were making fun of the way I say “guys” and my long, straight hair.

Just as Thomas was afraid that white people would unfairly think he would be a teenage father coming from a broken family, one of my worst fears going into Loyola was that black kids would think I was just another white kid from the suburbs who was lucky enough to be born with more money than them, who didn't really care because he was being forced to do this anyway.

On the second day I was up in front of the class talking about myself when this kid Michael rolled his eyes at me. I didn't know

him, didn't really know anyone. Michael was never once nice to me while I was at Loyola. He never thanked me when I handed him his lunch tray or said “hi” to me as we passed each other. He didn't know anything about me, didn't know who I was to hate me. But he still made fun of me while he thought I wasn't looking at him when I was telling the class where I wanted to go to college. I could only imagine what he was saying while leaning over to Greg: *I guess white guys all think they're smart.*

Then I was teaching the seventh grade the first week, an afternoon period of African history. The teacher had held the kids in line for most of the period until she called me up from my desk in the back of the room to teach the section review questions.

It didn't even start well. When I sat down at that high teacher chair in front of the podium, two of the kids, Toby and Michael, were already talking. The lesson we were covering was about South Africa, and one of the kids asked a question about something that wasn't in the book. I started telling them about Apartheid, but, as I was talking, they stopped listening. As I was trying to teach them, they talked to each other. I tried talking louder, but only one kid was even looking at me. The teacher was busy grading a stack of section review worksheets.

How do you get across to seventh graders that what you're talking about means the oppression of black people at the hands of prejudice? How do you get across to yourself, already paranoid, that it's not because you're just another white kid in a blue Oxford, who doesn't know what it's like, trying to talk about racism? How do you, the one who looks different for the first time, come to understand that maybe the way you look doesn't really have anything to do with it?

When I felt threatened, when kids would be mean to me, I'd just fall back into projecting onto them my fears of their thinking I was just another white kid. I was so different in my mind that, to me, there was no way my being white wasn't causing some problems, creating some gorge. In thinking so, I dug myself one.

In African-American Literature, a teacher had me read a James Baldwin essay, “My Dungeon Shook,” to the class. It seemed easy enough until I got to, “You can only be destroyed by believing that you really are what the white world calls a nigger.” I was the only white person in the class, reading to a group of black students. How are you supposed to handle it but read on as the kids listen, never even tapping their pencils, never shifting in their chairs, hardly even breathing, perfectly silent for the only time? I was disconcerted enough that I didn't take in, until the next time I read the essay, that Baldwin's point was that he saw it as the job of black men to extend their hands to white men.

After that class, two of the kids, Peter and Jason, pulled me aside. They asked me, in clipped, hesitant tones, what it was like for me to sit through that class while they talked about racism and what white men have done from their lofty seats. I answered, staring at their feet while they stared at my face, waiting, that I

see LOYOLA, 14

# Prep News Volume LXVII Platform Policy

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

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

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

As it stands now, the organizational structure of the *Prep News* differs slightly from that of recent years. This year the *Prep News* has one editor in chief, one sports editor, and two editors. The mem-

bers of the editorial staff are co-workers and share the duties of writing, copy-editing, layout, and staff management. The editors are supported by a core staff of regular reporters, who are frequently underclassmen.

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

It is the role of the editors to seek out and facilitate the reporting of all significant news at SLUH. While any faculty member or student is welcome to submit suggestions for potential articles, the *Prep News* is never obligated to publish any article idea; the editors withhold the right to deem any potential article un-newsworthy and retain it from publication for this reason.

Our primary emphasis as editors of

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

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

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

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

## Volume LXVII Editorial Policy

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

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

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

Either in response to anything in the editorial section or simply in an effort to express one's opinion about a SLUH related topic, a member of the SLUH community is welcomed and encouraged to

submit a letter to the editors.

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

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

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

Letters can be given to any *Prep News* editor or moderator. In addition, letters can be mailed to the *Prep News* courtesy of St. Louis University High School, 4970 Oakland., St. Louis MO. 63110, or e-mailed to [prepnews@sluh.org](mailto:prepnews@sluh.org).

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by Brian Fallon

## Calendar

Jan. 31-Feb. 7

**FRIDAY, JAN. 31**

Schedule R  
1818 Registration  
All Star Faculty vs. Fresh. @ AP  
V/B BB vs. Jeff City @ 7/5:30pm  
V HOC vs. Vianney @ Affton @ 8pm

**SATURDAY, FEB. 1**

V SW vs MICDS/Hickman @ Rec Plex @ 7pm  
JV/C WR @ Vianney TBA  
RAQ state @ Concord Sports Complex

**SUNDAY, FEB. 2**

Alumni Mother's Gift Party

**MONDAY, FEB. 3**

Schedule R  
Diversity Exchange Program

Throat Blessings @ AP  
Technology Mtg @ AP  
Senior Movie Trivia @ AP  
SAC Mtg @ 7 pm

**TUESDAY, FEB. 4**

Schedule R  
College Visits:  
Forest Park Community College @ AP  
Diversity Exchange Program  
Freshman English Tutorial @ AP  
Sophomore Bonus Reading @ AP  
TAP Mtg @ AP  
Junior Parent College Mtg @ 7-9pm  
V BB @ Gateway Tech @ 6pm

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5**

Schedule E  
Faculty Mtg @ 2:15pm

V SW @ Chaminade TBA

**THURSDAY, FEB. 6**

Schedule R  
Rosary @ AP  
Junior Class Liturgy @ AP  
Senior Movie Trivia @ AP  
Track & Field Signup  
Alumni Board Party  
V SW @ Chaminade TBA

**FRIDAY, FEB. 7**

Schedule R  
College Visits:  
Truman State University @ AP  
Senior Project Reports Due  
All Star Basketball vs Soph.  
V SW @ Chaminade TBA

**LOYOLA**

(from 12)

was sorry that was the way some people were. They spent the next twenty minutes telling me their stories about racism; not stories about being yelled at, or spit on, or cursed at, but about being ignored, passed by, and disregarded. Racists don't so much hate them, they said. They just don't see them.

It was right after that period, during Study Hall, that we went outside to play basketball. The first few days I hadn't really played with the kids during recess. They didn't really want me on their teams. They saw me shoot around a bit and assumed I was really terrible. And I am. Loyola started out, athletics-wise, just like a reminder of grade school. So I didn't play.

But we didn't have many people that Study Hall, so they let me in a game. Peter and some other guys were on my team; Jason and Brian, another SLUH guy on project, and some other kids were on the other. Peter and I joked the whole time. At one point he missed a shot, so I didn't pass him the ball, and he called me a hater.

I'd have to say Brian pretty well outplayed me. He's a good five inches taller

than me, so he got all the rebounds and could shoot over me all day. Plus, he's just better at basketball. But at the end of the first game, when we were picking teams again, Peter made me the first overall pick. I had never been the first overall pick in anything before. And it was over Brian, who was clearly better than me.

That's the kicker. Sometimes even Mr. Grier can be right. Racism, like every kind of irrational bias, like my manufactured fears that caused me to shy away from the kids at first, is so much more subtle than the extreme cases could ever lead you to believe. And, by the same token, race isn't even the most important thing about trying to understand someone who comes from a different background than you. Now that I've spent three weeks around black kids and culture, I realize that there's so much I haven't seen and don't understand. And some of it I'll never be able to understand. "Nigger" will always mean something different to me than it does to someone who's been called it, to someone who's been overlooked because a few of their genes are different from someone else who sunburns easily.

Baldwin wrote that prejudiced men were stuck in a history they didn't understand and that men have been so hesitant to change, to accept each other despite race because, "Any upheaval in the universe is terrifying because it so profoundly attacks one's sense of one's own reality."

I always felt lost when Mr. Grier tried to tell me about the differences. I felt lost the first time I stepped into Loyola's halls. I felt lost when Michael rolled his eyes at me. I felt lost when I first read Baldwin's essay. I felt lost when Peter and Jason talked to me about racism. But Baldwin, quoting an unknown poet, said of his liberation from being beaten down by racism, "'The very time I thought I was lost, my dungeon shook and my chains fell off.'"

Good thing I was listening the second time.

**CORRECTION**

The article on the technology meeting in last week's issue of the *Prep News* did not contain an important detail. The price of the 3M Wall Display ranges from \$10,000 to \$12,000.