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Prep News

"If nothing else, value the truth"

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ISSUE 23

Best in the US: Racquetbills take Nationals

Chris Guilfoy
Reporter

After they won the Missouri State High School Racquetball Tournament in the beginning of February, the Jr. Bills racquetball team traveled to the depths of South County to participate in the National High School Tournament. The Jr. Bills consistently gave an all-or-nothing performance as they ultimately became national champions, taking a six-point victory over second-place Sunset High of Portland, Ore.

The tournament was set up on a special point system which weighed wins in

the highest division most heavily.

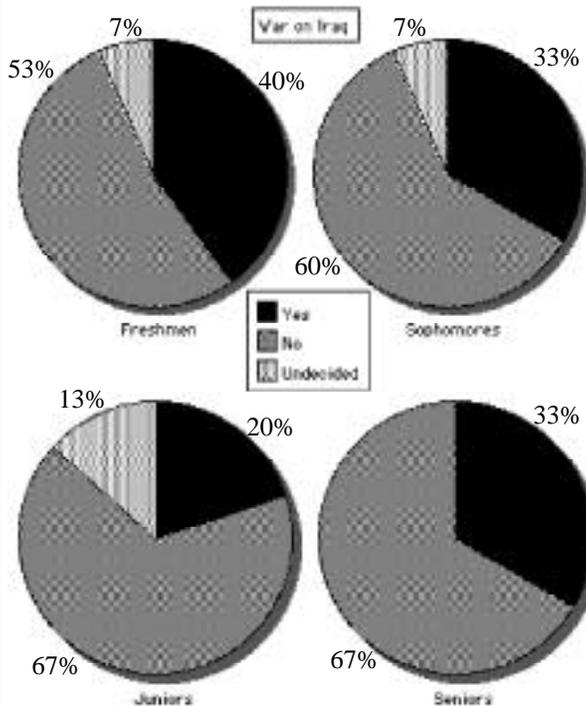
Only the top four players' scores for singles on each team and the top doubles' scores counted toward a team score in the tournament. The rule ensured a fair tournament between teams who had thirty players versus those with only a few players. However, there was the possibility of a flaw.

The exception this year was Charlie Pratt of Sunset High. He almost single-handedly stole first place from the Racquetbills with his amazing play. By literally sticking his own partner in the corner for doubles, Pratt was able to de-

feat both Jr. Bills doubles teams with clever shots and good hands. The Jr. Bills victory came down to the last match of the entire tournament, the third place singles match. Again, Pratt (seeded fifth in the nation), the sole and chief competitor for the eventual second place Sunset High team, needed a win to secure his team's first place finish. However, Pratt lost in the tie-breaker 4-11, gaining no points and allowing the Jr. Bills to take home their second national title and first since 1998.

However, the Racquetbills' depth and
see **TOP DOGS, 10**

Student Poll: War on Iraq



Editor's Note: These statistics are derived from a random sample of SLUH students chosen by lottery by the PN. Fifteen students were chosen from each class on Wednesday. Each student was read the same explanation and purpose of the poll, and each freely chose to participate. Each student was then asked the exact questions that appear below.

1. Are you related to anyone who is in the United States Armed Forces?

Yes 11, No 49

2. Do you personally know anyone who you are not related to in the United States Armed Forces?

Yes 26, No 34

3. What is your primary source for information about the situation in Iraq?

Internet 9, Television 33, Newspaper/Magazine 18, Radio 3, Aylward 1

4. At this point in time, do you think that the United States should go to war with Iraq? (see charts)

Yes 19, No 37, Undecided 4

4a. If the U.S. gains support from the United Nations, do you think that the United States should go to war with Iraq?

Yes 23, No 16, Undecided 2

Cashbah 2003: Year of the Billiken

Tim Huether
Reporter

On March 29, the annual SLUH Cashbah dinner-auction will take place in the gym. The theme this year will be "Year of the Billiken," an Asian-style theme.

SLUH donors have been unfazed by the impending war on Iraq and a downturn in the economy, as "donations are as good or better than they were last year," said Sharon Purcell, the Mother's Club officer in charge of Cashbah.

Thom Digman, Vice President of Advancement and Planning, sees a bright outlook for this year's Cashbah: "The trends are that others have done well this
see **BONES, 8**

STUCO room closed after horseplay

Brian Kane
Core Staff

During last Friday's afternoon announcements, Assistant Principal for Student Affairs Eric Clark reminded the student body that unscheduled periods are to be used for studying and announced that the Student Council office would remain closed to non-STUCO members indefinitely. The reason: horseplay between two non-STUCO students earlier in the day.

During last Friday's sixth period, several students with unscheduled periods were gathered in the STUCO workroom. Eventually, seniors Joe Neely and John Orbe began wrestling. "We weren't

fighting or anything serious," noted Neely.

"(Orbe) kind of picked me up," he went on. "I landed on my left shoulder and he landed on top of me."

Neely continued, "I knew something was wrong. I heard a loud pop (when I landed)." After a quick assessment of the situation, the group realized that Neely had dislocated his left shoulder.

Neely then sought the help of school nurse Scott Gilbert. When he could not find Gilbert, Neely considered attempting to pop his shoulder back into place by himself. Because he had recently been in the hospital for work on his right shoulder, he hoped to avoid returning by doing the work on his own. His friends convinced him that attempting to put the shoulder

back into place without medical assistance would risk causing more damage to it.

Athletic Director Dick Wehner soon found out about the injury and told Neely to report to Clark. Neely's father came to school to drive him to the hospital, but the school called an ambulance to transport Neely to the emergency room.

While at the emergency room, doctors determined that the dislocation was the only injury Neely had suffered in the fall. It took two doctors to pop the shoulder back into place. According to Neely, at one point the doctors put his shoulder back into place but it popped out again. "So that wasn't very much fun," comment
see STUCO, 11

Seven students skip to attend Books not Bombs program

Geoff Stewart
Reporter

On Wednesday, seven students (six seniors and one junior) took a trip downtown for a student strike called "Books Not Bombs" that took place in the basement of a small bookstore at Washington and Tucker. The students who participated in the event were Nils Carlstedt, Alex Bayer, Matt DeCaro, Nick Engle, Casey Jovick, Matt Spaeth, and Geoff Stewart. The event included a number of speeches and workshops on topics from Iraqi sanctions to fair trade in Colombia.

Upon arrival, Spaeth said, "I didn't know what to expect. This is my first time doing anything like this." He later commented, "I've heard so much about Iraq on TV and in the news...I figured this would be a good way to hear both sides of the story."

Jovick could only exclaim, "This is awesome, dude!"

The guest speaker who addressed fair trade in Colombia, Elizabeth Madden, explained that fair trade would get rid of some "middle-men" and, in the

process, would allow better wages for workers in Colombia. She argued that fair trade is "an available and effective alternative to free trade." Madden also said that fair trade gives workers at least somewhat of a voice in the decision-making of labor and wages, unlike free trade.

Jamie Smith, another guest speaker, talked about independent media and the Do-It-Yourself style. Smith described "zines" as an "independent thought" on paper. She said that you can say anything you want in a zine and express yourself through a number of media. Many of the guys liked this workshop. It showed that one could express his or her views and present his or her stance in several ways, like in a poem or through visual art.

One of the coordinators of the event, Justin Stein, said that he hoped that this strike would be a way to get people involved with e-activism, alternative media education, and zines. The basic theme of the event was to have a constructive passion for something and to do it. The response of the students in attendance suggested that more participation in events such as these by students in the SLUH community might occur in the future.

Final Moscow exchange begins Saturday

Jonathan Kim
Reporter

This Saturday, SLUH students will depart for the school's final exchange program with Moscow school #1253. Russian teacher Rob Chura has organized two Russian exchange opportunities for SLUH's Russian students each year for the past five years, but, after this year, SLUH will only exchange students with the St. Petersburg Physical Science School.

The Russian exchange program began in 1988, when the Reagan Administration's State Department was promoting ways to start linkage programs between American and Russian high schools. Under a grant given by the State Department, SLUH paired up with #1253 for a yearly exchange, the only one SLUH conducted until 1997.

In 1997, Chura felt that SLUH students needed more opportunities to participate in exchange programs. Since the Moscow student exchange took place in the spring, and thus wanted conflicts with
see RUSSO, 11

COMMENTARY

Take a deep breath: decline in spirit is overblown

Matt Hoffman
Editor in Chief

Like most students, I care deeply about St. Louis University High. I like this school. I want to go here. Most students invest themselves in the school, in sports, theater, STUCO, *Prep News*, or rigorous academic work. We do this because we care about our school and see some sort of value behind our activities. When I consider how much time many students devote to our school, I see spirit.

I also see spirit in the friendships I have made at SLUH, both with students and teachers. I feel at home when I'm at school. I enjoy talking, arguing, and laughing with the people I have befriended here. I enjoy being at school. I believe many students have similar sentiments.

So when Mike Lewis wrote that the administration is "tearing the heart out of St. Louis University High," I was surprised. The places where I see the most spirit have remained unchanged. A few minor things, such as the Valentine's Issue and STUCO

announcements, have changed, but these are certainly not the source of school spirit, not my spirit at least.

Then why have a few minor changes been blown out of proportion to seem as if they are drastic changes, crippling students' ability to have spirit? I suspect that, because students care so much about the school, they overreact when minor changes which might affect spirit are made. It is a good thing that students care about spirit. It shows that students care about their school.

But once things are in perspective, the changes that have been made really don't amount to much. The Valentine's Issue was cancelled, but students and teachers were being offended by cruel Valentines. STUCO announcements were cancelled, but STUCO still has plenty of outlets for their voice. Brigadiers have to wear shirts, but brigades still happen. Students are still allowed to attend sporting events. No new restrictions have been made on cheers. So while some feel that all of the little things amount to a big loss of spirit, these little things have not changed much about the everyday spirit-filled lives of most students.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fox offers modest proposal to solve recent spirit woes

To the Editor:

After reading Andrew Westlund's recent letter to the *Prep News* and the subsequent response from Mike Lewis, it occurred to me: "Yes, there has been a blatant and persistent attack on the halls of SLUH lately," or at least compared to the spirit-filled times of my freshman year. The editorial staff of the *Prep News* attempted to address the problem that Westlund and Lewis brought up, but I think that they were misguided in their attempt, for they falsely defined spirit, and they did not offer any plan of action. Regardless, though, the problem is undeniable.

We have waited too long while the administration has picked off our long-loved traditions one at a time. We can no longer deal with the oppression of "Big Brother" watching our every move. The administration has proven that they are out to get us, and we must fight back as their malevolence becomes more and more of a repressive force in our halls.

I have come up with a decently modest proposal for the students of SLUH to combat the attack against us. In considering what would be the most prudent plan of action and assessing the pros and cons of any sort of plan, I have found mine most virtuous and beneficial to the plight of the student body.

The genius of my plan comes in the way that it would work. I propose that we would create such a giant void of SLUH spirit that the halls would be so silent and abandoned that the admin

see FOX, 5

Victim of cargo pants temptations applauds their banishment

To the Editor:

Hello. I am Peter Gosik, a junior here at Saint Louis University High, and I would like to take this opportunity to publicly applaud the administration's and, more directly, Dean of Students Mr. H. Eric Clark's, most recent mandate, namely the banning of cargo pants and fleece jackets starting in the coming 2003-2004 school year. The riddance of fleece jackets is a no-brainer, as they are currently a paradox of our handbook guidelines; fleeces are allowed, but jackets are not. Although I have personally witnessed Mr. Clark stating on numerous occasions that fleece jackets qualify as fleeces rather than jackets, I feel that this new clarification is a refreshing bit of consistency in a modern world to often wrought with contradiction and confusion. Personally, I don't see why we need fleeces or jackets or anything of that nature at all; who needs them in a school with such an efficient, effective, and evenly-distributed heating system such as our own? Not I!

Of course, the real meat of the issue is the dissolution of cargo pants, an article of clothing that I can honestly say is the very scourge of my existence. As both a drug addict (and occasional dealer) and a notorious and prolific thief, I weep every night for my many crimes, wishing that there were some simple way that I could give up my life of deviance for one of virtue and piety. "If only I were forced to wear clothing prohibitive of my

see GOSIK, 5

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sanders responds to spirit issue, reflects on his own SLUH experience

To the Editor:

The topic of school spirit and censorship has been debated a lot in the SLUH community recently. I have been reading past articles and have come to see that SLUH's spirit, in its entirety, is not necessarily fading, but rather its means of outwardly expressing itself is being limited. Mr. Kesterson made a very important point through his letter last week, illustrating that the students are still displaying their spirit in ways such as cheering on the basketball team and entertaining the masses at the talent show.

I have found that one of the greatest things about being at SLUH is that our great spirit is demonstrated in so many ways: from sporting events to talent shows to classroom activities to service projects to when we are just with close friends or family. In my opinion, one of SLUH's greatest traits has always been its projection of spirit in traditional events, like STUCO, athletic, and theatre events. For me, it was SLUH's spirit at football and soccer games that I saw most when I was a little kid, that had the greatest influence on my decision to want to attend SLUH above any other high school.

I can clearly remember going to my cousin's Senior Follies production when I was in seventh grade and being awed by the sense of humor and togetherness of his senior class while they performed on stage. I heard stories from my older brother about Spirit Week, Belly Brigades, Spring Fling events, the cheering at SLUH games, Senior Follies, STUCO shenanigans, and a plethora of other happenings at SLUH.

My freshman year was absolutely amazing, finally having all of the things that I had heard so much about come to life and being part of it. And my senior year was the capstone to it all, being able to pass down all these great traditions to the underclassmen. True, not all of these things were always in the best taste, nor were things such as Belly Brigades or the Valentine's Issue tactfully done, but it was these things (done properly) that made my SLUH experience so great. SLUH is all about tradition, and I for one think that, if these traditions are taken away or censored, we are not only altering the types of things current and future Jr. Bills are involved in, thus changing the type of person future students will be, but also taking away what it means to be a true Jr. Billiken.

Steve Sanders, '02

Quote of the Week

*"You want to know what I think of Charlie Kane? Well, I suppose he had some private sort of greatness but he kept it to himself. He never gave himself away. He never gave anything away."
-Jedediah Leland, Citizen Kane*

Angrisani thinks Harrison's homily is incorrect place for political views

To the Editor:

Let me start off by saying that this is in no way intended to attack anyone's personage, political views, or their rights to express them. As of late, I have been uncertain as to where I stand on the issue of Iraq. My bias often switches sides, but, more often than not, I tend to lean toward the U.S. taking action on Iraq.

With that stated, let me say that while I was not offended, I was both surprised at and disappointed in the homily given by Fr. Harrison during Wednesday's Mass. Although I disagree with ninety percent of what Fr. Harrison says most of the time I talk with him, I still hold the utmost respect for him and his right to state his beliefs. Some may say that during his homily he was doing nothing more than portraying the Catholic Church's stance on the imminent war with Iraq. With the Pope's having sent an envoy that day to speak with President Bush, Fr. Harrison or any priest had reason to mention something small and brief about the Church's position in their homily.

It is my opinion, however, that this is not the only thing he was trying to do. I feel that Fr. Harrison was, to some extent, using the forum of the Mass as a platform to convey his personal political views to the SLUH community. It is also my view that, if indeed this was the case, it was completely inappropriate. Priests within the Church have, for thousands of years, been able to give good, inspiring, and meaningful homilies on Ash Wednesday without subtly inserting their political views into their homilies. Surely it could have been done this week as well. While it was very closely tied to the Gospel reading, I feel that there were many other things the homily could have been about. It would not have struck a chord with me as much as it did if people were not so divided on this issue.

Most people know enough facts about the relationship of the U.S. with Iraq to form an opinion on the matter. I certainly could have gotten more out of a homily about how to live out my sacrifice for Lent than facts and figures which I can get from watching *The O'Reilly Factor* at night when I get home. The only forum in which personal political viewpoints should be made known, as they have a right to be, is one in which the opposing side is free to immediately respond in a rebuttal, and, in this instance, it was not. Even if the war supporters people were wrong, it would still be inappropriate to call them "hypocrites" to their faces without giving them a chance to respond immediately. The fact that we were not called to remember the ashes of the World Trade Center along with the ashes of Baghdad is further evidence that Fr. Harrison was portraying his personal views.

It is my sincere hope that this letter will cause no ill will towards anyone but only brings attention to a small issue which I believe needs to be looked at.

Matt Angrisani, '03

FOX

(from 3)

istration would no longer be blind to the importance of the traditions they are taking away.

My plan calls for the staging of a giant boycott of all SLUH sports by both fans and athletes. By having every player from every team quit and refuse to play, there would be no SLUH athletics and, thus no spirit. There would be no reason for pep rallies, no need for belly brigades, no need for STUCO-manufactured afternoon announcements. If the plan were carried out, there would not be any way to show any SLUH spirit, and the administration would have to recognize their folly, for it is the spirit in the halls that makes SLUH such a great place. If you don't agree, just think about it: the lack of SLUH spirit would cause moping beyond belief, and moping abounding in the halls would have a devastating effect on the number of applicants to SLUH, something the administration cannot afford to allow.

As in all wars (and this retaliation to the attacks on spirit would most certainly qualify as a war), there would have to be certain sacrifices. For one, athletes who put in much of their time and effort working to prepare for the season would be left with no way of utilizing said work. I would think that that is but a minor forfeiture in the all-out retributive assault to regain our spirit.

Another sacrifice might come by way of disciplining any dissenters. Once the plan is in action, one might suspect that players who would not normally have made a team would try to cross over the lines and join a team, given their newfound chance to play. But insolence cannot be tolerated. Thus I would suggest that any scabs caught trying to play on a team would be rounded up and beaten with the "Spirit Fish." What better way to instill spirit into any scabs than by beating it into them? It would also convey the message to the administration that we mean business.

I think that the strength of my plan relies on the very fact that it would require the most unique showing of SLUH spirit to bring the students into a unified body. The

aura of the SLUH spirit imparted in our protest would be a slap in the face of the administration's attempt to destroy it.

In its editorial last week, the *Prep News* staff seemed to suggest that SLUH spirit is present in any activity, not just sporting events and STUCO-sponsored functions. Please. When I want SLUH spirit, I want original and witty impersonations of Steve Nicollerat over the intercom five times a week. I want a jiggling gut with the words "Quban Missile" painted on it in my doorway every Friday. I want to read eight times in just one Valentine's Issue, "Dear Mr. Flanagan, What?!?!?! Love, your junior pre-calc class." I want my eardrums to ring with the rousing and patriotic cheer of "HEY VIANNEY, YOU SUCK!" that you can only hear at hockey games. So don't try to tell me that spirit lives on in other avenues of the SLUH culture because you have obviously misunderstood the meaning of supporting your school.

One might argue that there are more conciliatory, benevolent solutions than this plan. One might even argue that we need not defend our dwindling traditions,

but rather should try to come up with new ways to show spirit. In doing so, one would suggest that SLUH spirit is merely the manifestation of the creativity of the student. But I say to you that SLUH spirit has never been about creativity. It is about perfunctorily plodding through the precedents of previous classes.

Through the plan that I have outlined (and most convincingly at that, I would believe), I have offered a solution to the recent and continuing aggression of the administration. The plan would undoubtedly bring back the lost traditions. It would instill new life into the spirit-dwindling within our halls by bringing us all together. It would bring spirit to those who may have been lacking it, whether that comes through the aforementioned coming together, or through the power of the fish. The plan would require very little sacrifice. Most gratifyingly, though, it would lead to a triumph over the menacing and ill-intentioned administration.

It smells like victory indeed. Thank you.

Jim Fox, '03

GOSIK

(from 3)

vices!" I would wail. Now that I will no longer be allowed to wear cargo pants, with their tempting pockets of devilish utility, I can rest easy, knowing that normal trousers will cure me of all my ills. My one concern is that, due to my lot in life, I currently wear cargo pants exclusively and now must find new slacks, less abundant in these "pockets," or as they are known on the street, "p-hocks."

It is also important to note that in these times of unrest and homeland insecurity, cargo pockets make the concealment of a "dirty bomb" much easier. I am convinced that the removal of cargo pants will not only alleviate our issues with thievery and drug proliferation, but also ease all of our fears regarding terrorism.

Code Red? Not without cargo pants!

To conclude: this is quite possibly one of the most brilliant policies ever to be put into place here at SLUH. I have no doubt that, once deprived of our receptacles for stolen goods, illicit substances, and/or weapons of terrorism, all related vices will disappear immediately from our community, or shall I say, our family. I applaud you, Mr. H. Eric Clark, and the entire administration, for your obvious concern for the student body's well-being. Some may view you as a distant administrator, but I can honestly say that I consider you something much closer, like a big brother.

Peter Gosik, '04

Cardboard Castles event cancelled

Brian S. Fallon
Core Staff

When many end their activities for the day, people often forget that there are thousands who have no home to which to return. Cardboard Castles is an organization that helps its retreatants discover what the homeless experience is like. This event, which was supposed to occur last Friday and Saturday, was cancelled due to inclement weather and frigid temperatures.

According to Pastoral Director Rob Garavaglia, who heads the group of SLUH students, "The reason (for the cancellation was) that we didn't want to compromise anyone's safety or health," see **POVERTY**, 12

Archaeology class offered for summer '03

Tom Fontana
Reporter

This summer, history teacher Tom Finan will bring the Summer Archaeological Field School to SLUH students for the first time. So don your dapper fedora, equip yourself with a whip, and travel with him to explore the Temple of Doom (or a reasonable facsimile thereof).

Though this will be SLUH's first year in the program, it will mark the fifth year that area high school students have come together with university students and professors to tackle the daunting discipline of archaeology.

Finan commented that he has expressed "a side interest in archaeology" and has "always been interested in bringing (archaeology) to SLUH." When SLUH's two partners in this venture, St. see **MUCH SMALLER**, 8

SLUH takes fifth at TEAMS

Michael Leuchtmann
Reporter

On Friday, Feb. 21, eight SLUH students waited with their coach, physics and geometry teacher John Shen, at the Student Center of St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley to enter into the TEAMS (Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics, and Science) competition. This team, composed of seniors Justin Luner, Mark Murphy, Michael Leuchtmann, Bob Purcell, Andrew Grass and juniors Bo Purcell, Joe Marincel, and Frank Havlak would end up finishing first in their division against schools in the region.

TEAMS is sponsored by JETS, the Junior Engineering Technical Society, a national non-profit education organization. The exam consists of two parts. Part I contains multiple choice objective questions which are scored on the day of the competition to determine the scores and standings for the competition on the state level and within divisions. Part II contains free response questions, based on the problems contained in Part I, that are to be graded for top teams in every state to rank the teams nationally after all competitions

have been completed. A few of the problems presented by the test were on engineering problems involved with roadway design, a spin ejection mechanism, and the cheese-making process.

Teams for the test are put into divisions based upon their school's admissions process, selective or open, and the number of students in grade 12. Because of the smaller senior class this year, the team dropped down into division six (class size between 101 and 250 students).

SLUH's team scored 58 points, beating out MICDS's Varsity A team and Lutheran South's team, who received scores of 56 and 45, respectively. Overall, Clayton High School took home the first place trophy with a score of 66, followed by Priory's JV and varsity teams and Ladue High School. Tied for fifth place overall for the region with SLUH was Clayton's Varsity B team. A varsity team is defined as a team including only twelfth graders; junior varsity includes only ninth through eleventh.

"Many hours of sweat and hard work were not required for us to annihilate our rivals, MICDS," said Murphy about the fact that some of the members of the team see **JETS**, 11

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS



Jeff Harrison, S.J., anoints Paul Sheridan's, S.J., forehead with ashes at Wednesday's Ash Wednesday liturgy.

Faculty All-Stars: Keeping the streak alive

Team practices for pickup games to ensure victory

Tim Piechowski, David Mueller
Sports Editor, Core Staff

Behold the greatness of the faculty All-Stars. The seniors will lose! Show your spirit and support the teachers. Watch the seniors lose—quack! God Bless us, everyone,” screamed the faculty All-Stars, running through homerooms in the first faculty Spirit Brigade in nearly 20 years.

Last Friday at activity period, senior homeroom M110 faced this year’s faculty All-Stars to determine who owned the title “Basketball Studs.” The seniors came in with extra tenacity as they knew the faculty had already gone 3-0 versus the junior, sophomore, and freshman classes.

The faculty All-Stars took the game against the seniors 30-20 in a heavily contested match.

The game began with tedious perimeter passing as the seniors took the the faculty squad lightly.

“They seemed scared to go in the lane,” said Physics teacher Kent Kershenski.

Throughout the game the faculty chipped away at the seniors, frustrating them with smothering defense and a methodical half-court offensive gameplan.

Jason LaFlore said, “They kept their top five in the whole time; the slouches stayed on the bench.”

While LaFlore may have been exaggerating, it was true that Stephen Casey and Tim O’Neil managed no more than a combined two minutes of playing time.

However, the faculty’s plan of only-best-players-play was not enough to keep the seniors out of the game. The seniors kept themselves close with clutch shooting from Dossie Jennings, who was shooting from Kansas.

“Dossie hit two NBA-range threes,” Alex Lepp said.

Although the seniors never led, history teacher Dave Barton said, “I was a

little worried when Dossie hit that first bomb. He can go on streaks...I don’t think anyone else was worried, (nervous laugh) but I obsess about things.”

There were several heated matches in the game, especially between LaFlore and theology teacher Tim Chik.

“I fouled Jason once, but I felt bad, so



Jennings attempts to pass Kershenski.

I apologized later,” said Chik, with concern for his eternal salvation.

“He was all up in my face,” LaFlore said of Chik’s sinful defense.

“Tiny” Tim Chik brought a crutch to the game to lightly mock his diminutive stature and Dickensian nickname, but he nearly needed it after LaFlore broke his ankle several times.

Coach John Ross showed that he could play, as well as coach basketball, by hitting two threes in the game.

Jennings brought up another matchup, in ASC teachers Steven Casey and Chris Kellet. “Kellet and Casey were annoying. They don’t know how to play, so they had to just go out there and bother people. They’re menaces on the court.”

The seniors had a dubious task in the game, as math teacher George Mills came out of faculty All-Star retirement and hit the boards hard during the game. The student team unanimously complained that his rec specs were a distraction to their own rebounding efforts.

The fiery Lepp showed his spunk on

the court in his throw-back volleyball style knee pads as he went sprawling to the floor and bounding out of bounds for every stray ball, or those in others’ hands.

Mild controversy arose after the game when it was discovered that the faculty had been practicing for some time.

“We just get together for a few hours on Sundays,” said Barton. “Just some pick-up games. No big deal.”

“It’s just to keep in shape,” said Kershenski with laughably defensive seriousness. “It’s not practice.”

The seniors were defeated by an appalling 30-20.

“As a homeroom, we had an off day,” Jennings said.

The faculty also used its kindergarten antics to defeat the juniors 34-27, the sophomores 31-11, and the freshmen 36-18.

PN Nightbeat

DRUIDS DEFEAT CHAMINADE 17-15

On Thursday evening the rugby Druids took on Catholic school rival Chaminade at the Jewel Box in Forest Park. The Druids triumphed, 17-15, despite playing on a field which resembled a quagmire.

Ryan Weis scored first for the Druids. They led at half 12-5.

In the second half the Druids allowed Chaminade to close the score.

“We had a couple of penalties, a couple of knocks; we gave them the second half,” captain Dave Byrns said.

Dan Lindsay from CBC scored the Druids final points.

Byrns described the scene, “We were right outside our twenty-two (meter line) and he kicked the ball and then picked up his own kick, ran down the field, and dove in for the try.”

Speechbills finish 2nd in CISL finals

MUCH SMALLER

J.R. Strzelec
Reporter

Last Sunday, the SLUH speech team made its last caravan of the school year, heading to the Catholic Interscholastic Speech League (CISL) Finals at Incarnate Word Academy. At Finals, the top seven contestants in each of eight categories competed to determine the rankings for the 2002-'03 season.

SLUH had entries in every category, the result of a strong and balanced season. Selections ranged from the dramatic climax of Edward Albee's *Zoo Story* to the light-hearted children's parody *Kat Kong* to a five-minute scripted radio broadcast. According to moderator Kathryn Whitaker, "We did some of the finest work in years."

Though the team rankings would be based on total points accrued during the season, individual category rankings were strictly based on that day's performances. "I thought there was going to be a lot of

BONES

(from 1)

year; most recently the Cor Jesu and St. Joe auctions surpassed the total money that was earned last year...As long as the work SLUH does is important to (alumni and parents), I believe that they will continue to support us."

The planning and work falls primarily on the Mother's Club. Putting the event together this year has posed few difficulties: "Everybody's been great and things have gone very smoothly," said Purcell. The Mother's Club annually begins work on the Cashbah in May and ends up recruiting about 450 volunteers. "They are a group of very special ladies," said Digman.

Cashbah generally brings in about \$300,000 to \$325,000 a year, all of which goes to "offset the expense of all students and to help to keep the tuition down for everybody," said President Paul Sheridan, S.J.

Proceeds are made in seven categories: the oral auction, the "silent sensation" auction, blackboard, homeroom baskets, certificates, the silent auction, and the price of admission.

pressure, but there really wasn't," said junior Kevin O'Brien.

SLUH's team came out of finals with three first-place trophies and two second-place trophies, as well as a team trophy for second place in the league. Seniors Brandon Bieber and Alan Naylor won first place in Poetry and Prose Reading, respectively, and junior James Erler won first in Radio Broadcasting.

Second place trophies went to senior Brian Cunningham and junior Peter Gosik (Duet Acting), as well as to Kevin O'Brien (Storytelling).

Rival DeSmet took home first place in those categories not captured by SLUH, as well as the team championship. Rosati-Kain came in third place for team total.

While not bringing home a first-place win was disappointing, the speech team gave an admirable showing and, most importantly, were able to explore and learn about a variety of speaking and performance styles.

Admission is the greatest source of revenue, bringing in an average of about \$160,000 a year, followed by the oral auction drawing (about \$130,000), homeroom baskets (\$26,000-\$30,000), silent sensation (\$27,000), blackboard items, (\$20,000), normal silent auction items (\$17,000), and finally gift certificate sales (an average of about \$12,000-\$15,000).

Another benefit of Cashbah, in addition to the funds it brings in to the school, is that, "It is the only time in the year that the whole school community comes together: students, parents, mothers, fathers, friends, corporations, all come together for a common purpose," said Sheridan.

In charge of the cleanup are the Father's Club, volunteer fathers and sons, the President's Ambassadors and their fathers, and the maintenance and custodian crews. According to Digman, the custodian and maintenance men "work like Trojans" and "make the Cashbah possible."

Large packages to be auctioned off include trips and tickets to Cardinal games against New York and Boston, a large armoire, a display case on a chest, a trip to the Daytona 500, and an array of jewelry.

(from 6)

Louis Archaeology and the St. Louis Public School District, contacted Finan. He seized the opportunity to offer the course to SLUH students because he believed they have a "real motivation to learn (archaeology)."

The course will last six weeks—from June 16 to July 25—and will meet every weekday from 7:10 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The first week will consist of classes in a regular classroom setting, most likely at Gateway Tech. The remaining five weeks will be spent performing field work at an excavation site.

The 2003 site is located on Vulcan Street in the Carondelet neighborhood. The site was once the property of Henry Zeiss, a stonemason who employed many German immigrants. The site features two stone houses, an underground storage facility, and several undisturbed cisterns. The neighborhood was once home to Spanish and French Creole aristocrats and also featured a Native American population. The site offers an excellent glimpse into nineteenth-century life in one of St. Louis' first multiethnic neighborhoods.

The class is open to all grade levels, and the successful completion of the archaeology summer course qualifies as one year of social studies elective credit. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the class. Interested students should pick up an application from Finan in the Social Studies office. Applications are due April 1. All materials will be covered by a course fee that has yet to be determined.

Anyone interested can gain additional information at the St. Louis Archaeology website at <http://www.digstlouis.com>. St. Louis Archaeology is a non-profit organization dedicated to the investigation and excavation of St. Louis' ethnic neighborhoods to promote a deeper understanding of St. Louis' rich history. The Archaeological Institute of America, Washington University, St. Louis Public Schools, and the city of St. Louis support them in their quest to preserve St. Louis' cultural identity.

March 7, 2003

TOP DOGS

(from 1)
determination not to give up was the key in their win. Pratt's play in singles and doubles was ultimately no match for the Jr. Bills' tenacity.

The sheer depth of the Jr. Bills was clearly shown through the final scorings for the team. The top four point-getters for singles count towards team points for a school. However, the Jr. Bills' depth was so great that ten players ended up filling those four spots. Junior Phil Mathews and senior Chris Guilfooy both moved on from the beginning round of 256 players and finally lost in the round of 16 players, earning the team 48 points each.

For the other two spots, eight players were tied with 24 points. Sheer determination and depth were clearly shown as those eight players continued to fight and proved how it was not a fluke that the Racquetbills won Nationals.

As Mathews said, "The way our team played as a whole with some players moving farther than expected really showed strong team depth."

Of the eight tied for the third and fourth spots, two were from this year's varsity team. Juniors Tom Carrow and Eric Weber won their first two matches to get to the round of 64, yet ended up losing.

Also losing in the round of 64 to give the team 24 points were Brian Kelly, Dan Uhrhan, sophomores Ryan Franklin and Eric Durban, and freshman Mike Guilfooy. Those players competed with determination in their matches and gave the team needed points to win the title.

Seeded tenth in the nation, Phil Mathews used his strong power to move past his weaker opponents into the round of 16. After getting a bye in the first round to move to the round of 128, Mathews then played three out-of-town opponents whom he handily defeated.

When he entered his round of 16

match against seventh-seed Anthony Herrera of New York, Mathews met his match. Mathews lost his match 10-15, 9-15. However, he gave Herrera his most difficult match thus far, as Herrera had only allowed three points at the most in one game during the tourney.

Mathews maintained an open mind during the tournament. He noted, "It was really exciting to compete with top players in the nation. I didn't know what to expect."



Junior Tom Carrow kicks off a point with a serve.

Although he didn't know what to expect, Mathews's performance and 48 points were what the Jr. Bills needed to win. Seeded eighteenth in the nation, Chris Guilfooy fought throughout the tournament with determination, only to lose to the best. Guilfooy finally lost in the round of 16 to Ben Croft, who ultimately took second place in the nation. However, losing in the round of 16, captains Guilfooy and Mathews earned the majority of the 156 points needed for the title.

Junior John Reagan was another one of the four point-scorers, winning fourth place in the blue division. After breaking his right hand in January and playing with his left thereafter, Reagan was back to his usual right-handed play during Nationals. His quick, soccer-like skills and determination kept his game running, until he was finally stopped by CBC's top seed Mike Wyland in the third place match of blue.

Two other junior varsity players who came out with unexpected wins were sophomores Pat Corcoran and Joe Lorenz. Corcoran took second place in the red division, losing in the finals to John Donovan of Kirkwood 15-3, 15-2. Joe Lorenz was the third place winner in the red division as he won 15-13, 8-15, 11-8 against Eric Li, a varsity player from Parkway West. Corcoran and Lorenz both received medals for their wins in red, along with Guilfooy, Brand, Mathews, and Carrow for their doubles wins, and John Reagan for his fourth place in blue.

JV-17 star Mike Grosch played in his last match as a Jr. Bill against an opponent attired in a "fun" fashion. As Grosch lost to the sixth seed in the nation, Shane Karmelin, it was more of an entertaining game as Karmelin wore a skirt in the match. Apparently, Karmelin had lost a bet to a friend over the weekend and had to wear a skirt in his match.

In the doubles tournament, State champs Jon Mills and Tony Sneed had a rough outing. After winning due to forfeit, they had to play the number-one seeded team from Beaverton, Ore., and ultimately lost in a heart-breaker.

Even though they had a tough tournament, the doubles team still played amazingly all year and really helped the team compete well in State. The determination and heart of Sneed and Mills will always be remembered as they were the fire of the Racquetbills' spirit.

Seeded second in the doubles tournament, Guilfooy and Mike Brand cruised past a JV Kirkwood team, the SLUH Weber/Reagan doubles team, and a Beaverton, Ore. team until they finally lost in the semifinals to Charlie Pratt and his corner-hidden partner.

Brand and Guilfooy ended up taking third in the tourney by defeating the top two players of Kirkwood in a quick match.

see SUPREME, 10

SUPREME

(from 9)

Brand said of the third place finish, "(Guilfoy) and I practiced together once before the tourney; to get the two-seed spot and to take third in the nation in doubles was far beyond any of my expectations."

Juniors Phil Mathews and Tom Carrow earned the team a needed 60 points by taking second place in the doubles tourney. A good combination, Mathews and Carrow won four matches before their loss in the finals to Pratt's team. With Carrow's amazing dives and pinch shots and Mathews's rollout kills, this doubles team cruised to the finals and took second place, losing 15-11, 7-15, 8-11.

Carrow really stepped up his doubles play during the tournament. There were many shots that he twisted and turned just to make it to the front wall. Like a cat pawing at a little ball, Carrow's reflexes brought forth many unexpected shots to help the doubles team earn second place. The second-place win was an even more important one because it gave the Racquetbills the final points needed to become national champions for the second time since 1998.

Coach Joe Koestner was most impressed with his team's depth, determination, and ability to keep fighting and never give up. Said Koestner, "The one key to our win was the extraordinary depth that was added to our team."

What was even more impressive was the upperclassmen's spirit and abilities passed down to the underclassmen. Koestner noted that the reason the U. High continually performs well, year after year, is due to "the upperclassmen sending down a fire of energy. The underclassmen get that burn and

then their play improves tremendously faster than it seems to happen to the other teams."

The Jr. Bills look to be in an even better position next year, losing only half of their varsity squad. Many freshmen and sophomores are emerging from the ranks, so look out for another strong season next year.

Koestner summed up the year, saying, "Those racquetball players sure had that tenacity. Way to go, national champs."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upward Bound, SLUH's summer program in study skills for seventh-grade boys, needs one or two counselors for the 2003 session (Class of 2004, at the youngest). Hours are approximately 7:50 to 2:30 from June 12 through July 17. We are looking for applicants who have a record of devotion to learning and diligence, academic and otherwise. They should also have a personality likely to inspire seventh-grade boys to study diligently in the summer. Contact Mr. Hussung for further details and an application.

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BLOOD DRIVE

BY THE NUMBERS



Nic Rottler gives blood at Thursday's blood drive.

- 95 pints collected
- 3 pints declared unusable
- 16 donations deferred
- 20 gallons of lemonade drunk
- 381 bags of chips eaten
- 180 bags of cookies eaten
- 121 STUCO blood drive shirts given away
- 10 students who did not get a shirt but were promised "something with blood on it"
- 2 faintings
- 12 stitches
- 8 STUCO members who skipped school all day
- 1 *Billy Madison* movie watched by STUCO members
- 10 *Seinfeld* episodes watched by STUCO members
- 1 jealous newspaper staff

RUSSO

(from 2)

school and family activities, Chura wanted to create another, more convenient exchange program. Chura, who lived in St. Petersburg for two years before coming to SLUH, contacted St. Petersburg Physical Technical School to start another program, thus beginning an alternate exchange opportunity in the summertime.

However, having two exchange programs a year has been less effective than Chura had hoped. Since the two smaller exchange programs could be combined into a single larger trip diminishing planning complications, Chura decided to cancel one of the trips. The summer program was the more logical exchange to keep because students do not have to worry about falling behind academically, and conflicts are less likely to occur in the summer.

Furthermore, the St. Petersburg school fits SLUH's academic needs more closely than Moscow's #1253. Since #1253 is a specialized English language

school whose primary goal is to focus on speaking English, SLUH students found that the Russian students' English proficiency outmatched their own mastery of Russian, eventually causing SLUH students to speak more English than Russian.

The St. Petersburg school, on the other hand, is primarily a science and math academy, and therefore its students are more willing to speak Russian with the visitors. Since this environment is more conducive to speaking Russian, SLUH students would benefit more in a program with the St. Petersburg school.

Chura emphasized that the Russian program will always have an exchange program: "The Russian program for fifteen years has had an exchange program. In the last five years, we have had two programs to see if two programs fit us. This change is not because of disinterest or that the Russian program is suffering, but, since two programs do not fit us well, the Russian program is reverting back to the original form."

STUCO

(from 2)

mented Neely. The doctors succeeded on their second attempt.

STUCO President Casey Barrale commented on the irony of the situation, saying, "Maybe three minutes before (Neely's) injury, I came in (to the STUCO workroom). Two other students were wrestling, and I was like, 'You guys need to stop before somebody gets hurt.' And Neely's the one that said, 'Nobody's going to get hurt.' And then I leave, and, pretty much two or three minutes later, Neely's hurt."

As a result of the incident, Clark has closed the STUCO office to non-STUCO members indefinitely. At this time, he has not considered a time when it might be reopened to the student body, although Barrale suspects that it will remain closed until at least the end of this school year.

"Good things have come out of it," noted Barrale. "It's a lot easier for us to function without non-STUCO members getting in the way or distracting us."

Barrale also believes that this change allows the room to serve its duty as an office rather than a student lounge.

JETS

(from 6)

were added just a couple of days before the competition and not all had prepared for the event.

"Given our lack of preparation and our competition having had sessions to prepare or classes devoted specifically to the topic, we did well," said Shen.

The team also used their calculators to make wild guesses. Luner said, "Some of our success has to be attributed to the random integer function of the TI-83, which got us through some of the multiple choice problems."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Two host families needed.

SLUH is looking for two families to host two Colombian students. They will spend the Fall Semester, 2003, studying at SLUH. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Mr. Merriott at 531-0330 ex. 141.

Neely is currently going through rehabilitation on the shoulder three days a week. He returned to school on Wednesday.

**AMERICAN MATHEMATICS
COMPETITION QUALIFIERS***

- ANDY ZHU
- JOE MARINCEL
- CHRIS LUTH
- FRANK HAVLAK
- JOE THOMAS
- TIM FRIESE
- JUSTIN LUNER
- MIKE LEUCHTMANN
- CHRIS WAGNITZ
- RYAN GOLDBERG
- TOM MARTIN
- DAN MCDOUGELL
- DAVE ZYCHINSKI
- MARK MURPHY

- DENIS AGNIEL
- JOHN BLOCK
- NICK SPEISER
- DAN GRAVLIN
- PAT HOGAN
- CARL THOMPSON
- MATT KILLIANY
- PAUL GEORGE
- PAT LYONS
- NICK ODEM
- DAN FLANAGAN
- JIM FOX
- ROB RYAN
- LU WANG

*Juniors and Seniors listed in descending order by score

by Brian Fallon

Calendar

Mar. 7 - Mar. 28

Friday, March 7

Schedule R
Fast Friday
SLUH Coalition Against War @ AP
Hot Shot vs. Faculty @ AP
Sno-Ball @ Chase Park Plaza @ 7 pm
Robotics Competition through 3/9
Pretzels & Lil Charlie's Pizza

Saturday, March 8

Placement test for 2007
Freshman day of Service
Sophomore Class Dance

Sunday, March 9

Junior Parent College Mtg @ 2 pm

Monday, March 10

Schedule R
National Latin Exam @ AP
Junior/Senior Knock-Out
Hockey Banquet
Cheese Garlic Bread & Chicken Rings

Tuesday, March 11

Schedule H
Faculty Mtg @ 1 pm
Class of '2007 mtg in theater
Toasted & Baked Ravioli

Wednesday, March 12

Quarter Exams
History
Math
Burgers

Thursday, March 13

Quarter Exams
Theology
Science
Burgers

Friday, March 14

Fast Friday
Quarter Exams
Language
English
College Visits:
Westpoint Academy @ 10:45 am
Science Club through 3/19
Muny Auditions
Burgers

Saturday, March 15

Make up Placement test for Class of 2007
ACES Mixer TBA
Spring Break through 3/23

Sunday, March 23

ACES Retreat @ Kings' House through 3/25

Monday, March 24

Schedule R
Fourth Quarter Begins
Quarter Grades due
Senior Flag FB @ AP
Pro-Life Club Mtg @ AP
V-BB @ Belleville West @ 4:15 pm
Seasoned Fries & Belifino Pizza

Tuesday, March 25

Schedule R

Senior Class Mtg @ AP
Sophomore/Junior Mental Meltdown @ AP
Fiestada & Crisпитos/Burritos

Wednesday, March 26

Schedule R
AP Registration Deadline
Respect Committee Mtg
Freshman/Senior Mental Meltdown @ AP
V/JV VB @ CBC @ 5/6:00 pm
B-BB vs Mehlville @ Heine Meine @ 4:00 pm
B/C Track @ Northwest @ 3:30 pm
Bosco Sticks & Mostoccoli

Thursday, March 27

Schedule L
Freshman Teacher Mtg @ 7:40 am
Sophomore/Junior Meltdown @ AP
Social Film Series "Enemy at the Gates" @ 3 pm
V-BB vs Normandy @ Forest Park @ 4:15 pm
V/JV VB @ Ft. Zumwalt South @ 4:40/6:00 pm
Pretzels & Chicken Strips

Friday, March 28

Schedule R
Fast Friday
Freshman/Senior Mental Meltdown @ AP
Cashbah Preview Party
V/JV Tennis vs Cape Girardeau Central @ 4:00 pm
Urban Plunge through 3/29
Curly Fries & Papa John's

POVERTY

(from 2)
said Garavaglia, "and we didn't think it would be a very meaningful retreat if people were to break into small groups, listen to speakers, and have time for individual reflection in the middle of rain and cold."

The group leaders decided that the event would be postponed if the temperature went below 35 degrees before the event began. A rescheduled date has been set for March 28 and 29.

One of the major points emphasized by the event is to educate participants by having them listen to guest speakers. speakers include a person who was formally

homeless, a director of a homeless shelter, a representative from Mayor Slay's staff, a police officer, and a staff member from Barnes Jewish hospital, who will discuss hygiene of the homeless.

SLUH students that are involved in the leadership of the event are freshman Nathan Christopher, sophomore Matt Dirnbeck, juniors Matt Austin and Nate Hillard, and senior Bobby Mattaline.

Austin expressed his disappointment in the cancellation of the retreat. "We had a lot of people ready to go, and it was unfortunate we had to postpone it because of the weather."

The retreat is expecting about 30 to 40 students from SLUH. and about the same

number from Nerinx, making participant totals around 70 to 80 for the weekend.

Garavaglia stated another purpose of the retreat, saying "it builds awareness through the action of sleeping in a cardboard box for the night, similar to the reason why we fast and abstain during Lent on Fridays and Ash Wednesday, so just in that small act of going without, we get a little bit of a sense of what it might be like to be homeless."

Garavaglia concluded by saying, "We in no way can replicate what it is like to be homeless because in the end we can always choose; after the event we get to go home and take a shower."