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Prep News

"If nothing else, value the truth"

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ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL, FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2002

ISSUE 27

Leuchtmann recovers in ICU after car crash

Denis Agniel
Editor

It's every parent's worst nightmare," said Physics teacher Paul Baudendistel at a special senior prayer service convened on Monday morning.

Around 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 12, senior Mike Leuchtmann was in a severe car accident. He was airlifted to St. Louis University Hospital and admitted to the Intensive Care Unit, where he remains.

Leuchtmann suffered some cracked ribs and seriously bruised lungs, but amazingly has no head trauma. He was on a ventilator as of Tuesday.

Leuchtmann's mother, Mary, said that doctors are trying to "wean him off of the

ventilator"; once off, he could move out of the ICU and into a regular room. There is no timetable for his getting off of the ventilator.

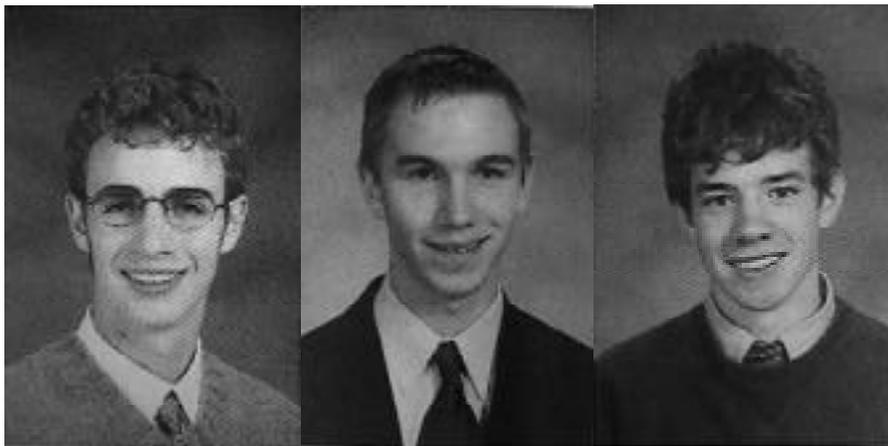
Initially, Leuchtmann had a lot of swelling in his head, but the swelling has receded, allowing him to open his eyes. He is now responsive, and a few teachers who have seen him report his making eye contact and even squeezing people's hands.

Mrs. Leuchtmann described his status yesterday: "He's in critical condition, but we expect him to make a full recovery."

The crash occurred on Interstate 44 near Lewis Road, which is nearly ten miles west of Interstate 270. Leuchtmann, see **LEUCHTMANN, 2**



STUCO ELECTIONS



On Friday, April 11, the commissioners for the 2003-2004 STUCO were elected. Brian Heffernan (left) was elected Sports Commissioner, James Erler (center) was elected Religious Commissioner, and Chris Baricevic (right) was elected Social/Publicity Commissioner. These three commissioners will join John Block, Tom Mudd, and Tom Economon on next year's STUCO.

Quiz Bowlers defeat Rosati, advance to State

Dan Sinnett
Core Staff

The Quiz Bowl team advanced to the state championship round when it defeated Rosati-Kain in district play on Saturday.

The district competition is played in a round-robin format. Rosati-Kain and DuBourg were the only other teams in SLUH's district at the event.

"Rosati-Kain was the biggest competition," said moderator Tom Becvar, see **QUIZ, 2**

LEUCHTMANN

(from 1)
who was driving, hit the guard rail on the far right of the highway, causing the car to flip up in the air.

The reasons for the crash are unclear, and Baudendistel said that the details may never be clear.

Mrs. Leuchtmann said that there was only one eyewitness. However, his story seems inaccurate because, according to Mrs. Leuchtmann, what he says happened does not make sense given the physical evidence. The witness said that the car hit the guard rail and then slid down the hill, but Mrs. Leuchtmann said that the car definitely rolled down the hill, eventually stopping at trees.

"All of the witnesses thought we were dead," said Leuchtmann's girlfriend Megan Buck of the people who eventually came on the scene. Buck is a senior at Cor Jesu Academy, and was also in the car at the time of the accident.

Buck was thrown from the car in the crash, despite the fact that she was wearing a seatbelt (Leuchtmann was too), because her chair was reclined as she slept. Buck ended up about 15 feet from the car. Mrs. Leuchtmann said she thinks Buck would have died had she not been thrown from the car because the passenger side was

crushed and Buck's headrest went through the sunroof.

Buck does not remember anything about the crash. "All I remember is waking up in the ambulance," she said.



The President's Ambassadors' Get Well sign for Mike Leuchtmann.

Buck was released from the hospital on Saturday night with staples in the back of her head and on her ankle, and a possible rotator cuff tear.

Baudendistel said that the most encouraging thing he heard was that Leuchtmann's parents talked about "when he would return to school," not if he would return.

Leuchtmann and Buck had been at the district quiz bowl competition from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. They then returned to Buck's house, which is near the scene of the crash, and left around 6:00 p.m. to go to dinner at the Leuchtmann's.

Sunday night, an estimated 15-20 seniors, (along with about ten Cor Jesu students) gathered at Washington University's Catholic Student Center for 9:00 p.m. Mass. Principal Mary Schenkenberg was in attendance as well.

Said Schenkenberg, "It was nice to be able to pray at that time."

On Monday, seniors assembled for prayer service during homeroom, at which time Baudendistel explained the situation to the senior class.

Schenkenberg said she told Leuchtmann's father that the school will "do whatever we (can) to make sure Michael finishes school, and (he is) not to worry about his AP exams."

Mrs. Leuchtmann welcomes visitors because "it's nice to have support," but she added that "until he's in that regular room" most won't be able to see him.

QUIZ

(from 1)
continuing, "They had a student on their team who was very quick at answering."

Splitting the first two matches with Rosati-Kain, SLUH knew that the final would be close. With a correct answer worth ten points and Rosati-Kain's lightning quick players itching to get the final question, SLUH's ten-point lead was looking mighty thin. In order to stall Rosati-Kain, senior Justin Luner "buzzed in before the question was totally finished," reminisced senior Joe Thomas.

The strategy, in general, is very effective, because a wrong answer doesn't lose any points for the team. Seeing as Luner answered the question correctly, his confidence was well-founded. With the victory locked, the team proceeded to answer two of the four possible bonus questions to put their point total at 290 points to Rosati-Kain's 250.

The team now looks toward the state competition in Columbia, Mo. They will face a tough morning on Saturday, May 10, when they will play teams from the Kansas City district and the northwest district of Missouri. Thomas cited the team's experience as reason for their being formidable opponents, "I think there is a good chance that we'll play into the afternoon."

ROBOT CLUB ROBOX



Last Friday during activity period, the Robot Club demonstrated their robot, Six Dollar Burger, in the Danis Lobby. Controlled by two tank-like joysticks, the robot displayed its pneumatic wings along with its four hundred pounds of pushing power.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Morris, Engle: Response to pro-war letters, students, faculty

To the Editor:

This letter is written in response to the pro-war letters printed in last week's edition of the *Prep News*, as well as in response to pro-war students and faculty in the school.

Last week, Adam Storm claimed that we see all sorts of anti-war protests on television, but that "we don't see much support for this war." This statement is blatantly false. In the past few weeks one could not turn on the TV without seeing what great advancement the troops made and how the soldiers' families were reacting, or how the Iraqi people have welcomed the U.S. troops. Our school dropped support for an anti-war rally two weeks ago, and the *Prep News* had three pro-war letters just last week. At the most recent peace rally, there were pro-war protesters. They stood on the walkway over U.S. Highway 40.

A person doesn't even have to look to the media to see pro-war messages. For a very short time there were banners promoting peace over the highway, but they were quickly taken down. There are now American flags and signs that say, "Support our troops," which remain, although it is illegal to hang any sort of sign from these overpasses. Why is it that the peace signs are taken down but the pro-war signs remain?

Storm also talked about how the pictures in the Commons suggested that the peace rally was an "'Anti-war' or 'Impeach Bush' rally." Part of this assumption is true, but the other part is generally false. Of course, the protest for peace is an anti-war protest. Anyone who stands for peace has to be anti-war. Many of the people who are against the war in Iraq were also anti-war in Afghanistan, and will be against any war in the future. Storm also claims that this was a rally to impeach Bush. This is, on the whole, a false statement. We know from experience at other protests, as

well as primary sources from the last protest, that people in the push for peace aren't out to impeach Bush. Yes, there may be a minutely small minority of people there (the extremists) who want to impeach Bush, but an overwhelming majority of the protesters just want an end to war. If you judge a rally or a cause by the extremists, then you lose the message of the rally or cause. One could judge all Pro-Life people as individuals who blow up abortion clinics and shoot doctors, but most people know those are the extremists, not the norm.

Most people have now come to the conclusion that the U.S. is at war to help the Iraqi people. Storm writes, "No one likes innocent people being killed, but that's part of war." That's an easy sentence to write when there hasn't been a war in the U.S. for many years and the actual fighting is thousands of miles away, and the dead civilians are people to whom you have no connection. Tell Razeq al-Kazem al-Khafaj that dead civilians are just a part of war; three of his children recently died because of this war. Also, since Baghdad has been "liberated," there has been non-stop looting, and the troops (both U.S. and British) have yet to do anything about it.

We also disagree with Storm when he says opinions about the war should not be brought up in a homily. We went to Catholic grade schools, and we were taught that the point of a homily is to connect Scripture to important current events. What's more important than war?

Storm also says "How dare you protest this war?" We say, "How dare we not protest this war?" We think everyone is called to question situations in which people are dying or suffering. Everyone agrees that Saddam Hussein is doing horrible things, but, if you want change, you have to make it yourself. Gandhi was
see **MORRIS AND ENGLE, 5**

Friese urges support of new bill on former School of the Americas

To the Editor:

Last fall, SLUH students joined citizens from the young to the elderly gathered from around the country in an annual protest at Ft. Benning, Georgia, to shut down the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, formerly the School of the Americas. These SLUH students were joined by alumni and faculty members. The school is a training ground for Latin American soldiers and is accused of being a central force in state-sponsored terrorism throughout Latin America.

Past SOA atrocities include the 1981 annihilation of the entire village of El Mozote and the 1989 massacre at the University of Central America, where six Jesuits and their housekeeper were killed by a death squad.

Now, a bill is in the U.S. House to shut down the school for a year to allow a full congressional review to check continued allegations of teaching tactics that violate human rights. The bill is HR 1258, and currently seven Illinois Representatives co-

sponsor the bill. No representative from Missouri does so.

I urge all SLUH students to look at websites like SOA Watch's website, www.soaw.org. Given the despicable history of WHISC, I believe it is right that we support this bill. As long as allegations continue to come in, the American people must have an assurance that their tax money is not training terrorists. This bill offers the reasonable, effective action that is needed. The closure will give Congress time to determine the true story behind WHISC. If WHISC re-opens after a Congressional review, I think that we can be reasonably sure that its checkered history will have abated for a school that truly does teach Latin America how to deal with turbulent nations without resorting to intimidation, lies, and massacres.

Please call or write your representatives and ask them to vote to close WHISC and finally wash our hands of this institution's tenacious blood stains.

Tim Friese, '04

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nappier sees flaws in last week's letters to the editor

To the Editor:

Last week, I read three letters arguing for the appropriateness of the war in Iraq. These letters attacked those who are against the war and their right to "peacefully assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances" (Bill of Rights, 1st Amendment). I find their arguments flawed: they attempted to reject our constitutional rights as protesters and, in many cases, made leaps of logic that lacked reason and coherence. They sought to attack those with opposing viewpoints rather than using evidence to draw others to their side.

In my history classes, I have been taught to question constantly the reliability of sources. I was shocked to read in Adam Storm's letter that we should have absolutely blind faith in our government. This seems like a bad idea to me, in that doing so would negate the democracy that we have so frequently engaged in war to defend. Furthermore, deceitful politicians can accept large stipends from corporations who, consequently, can determine the passage of laws. This leads me to have serious reservations about the purity of their motives in this war.

Again, in Matt Leaders's letter, I see someone simply accepting what he hears without questioning its source. He points to war coverage, saying that, from the coverage he has seen, this is what the Iraqi people want. While I by no means question that a significant portion of Iraqis wish to be freed from Hussein, I cannot believe that the media is making much of an effort to depict the anti-American sentiment which exists due to our past actions in the Middle East. While there is no doubt that the Iraqis appreciate being liberated from Saddam, on the same note I believe that the friends and family of the 1,200 civilians killed by

Coalition forces (BBC, 4/10), and the nearly 300,000 displaced by U.S. bombing (State Department, excludes those displaced after the fall of Baghdad), represent a large portion of Iraqi opinion which sees the U.S. as a baseless invader.

Ryan Tandler argued that after the war, "Iraq will be free." However, looking back on prior U.S. involvement in the Middle East, this too is questionable. We have shown ourselves to be incapable of creating a lasting peace when intervening in this area. After World War II, we, along with others, created Israel and an unending cycle of violence by placing two hostile cultures in direct contest over the Holy Land. We tried to save Afghanistan from communism, yet we left the Taliban in our wake. In the Iran-Iraq War we sided with Saddam Hussein, providing him with weapons of mass destruction he later used to attack the Kurds in northern Iraq.

Finally, there is the issue of our military tactics. When unarmed Iraqi POWs are persecuted, it can only be called inhumane. When such atrocities as burying soldiers alive occur (Kellner, Douglas, "The Persian Gulf TV War," www.gseis.ucla.edu/faculty/kellner/papers/gulfwar9.htm, sect. 9.4. and 10.2), only one example of brutality during the first Gulf War, then our military leaders are guilty of the same kinds of war crimes as Saddam, Hitler, and Stalin. When troops are taught such hate against the enemy, these crimes become inevitable. No one knows what atrocities from this war will be exposed ten years from now.

However, what truly disappoints me is the total lack of openness in my classmates. All three pro-war letters from last
see NAPPIER, 6

Moellering questions lack of racquetball assembly

To the Editor:

I would like to start out by saying congratulations once again to the state champion swim team for their outstanding achievements. I feel that it was not only appropriate but necessary that they were congratulated in grand fashion before the entire student body because, as the slogan goes, we are "men for others," and as men for others, we should support each other to the fullest.

Unfortunately, that is not exactly what I've seen. Not only are we the state champions for swimming, but we are also state and national champions for racquetball. But where is their half day? Where is the all-school assembly to congratulate them? Do they not deserve recognition, too?

While pondering this idea, I asked around to see what others thought. The first person I asked said, "Why should they get a celebration? They're only a club sport." My answer to that was: "Is hockey not also a club sport? Do we not also celebrate the winning of the Jesuit Cup?" So what makes hockey any different from racquetball? My contention is, "Nothing."

The second person I asked said, "They win State every year; it's not that big of a deal." While some may not think it is a very big accomplishment, I do. According to the dictionary, a champion is "one that is clearly superior or has the attributes of a winner." Does that not describe our racquetball team like it describes our swim team?

It is my belief that, as members of the SLUH family, we must support all members of that family when they accomplish a goal, especially something as elite as a national championship, regardless of its status, level, regularity, or degree of difficulty. It is also my belief that the racquetball team has not been shown this support nor the proper recognition that they earned. So it is my duty to question those in charge of scheduling these types of celebrations to make sure that they give credit where credit is deserved.

Curiously,
Joe Moellering, '03

Midseason Varsity Sports Stats

Lacrosse record: 6-2

Defeated Columbia Hickman 19-5 on Saturday

Lacrosse Point Leaders

Name	Shots	Goals	Assists	Points
Matt Hof	54	33	16	49
Travis Dum	47	20	7	27
Tyler Orf	20	12	6	18

Goalie Ben Zaegel: 5 wins, 2 loses, GAA 4.22

Volleyball record 7-1

Defeated Vianney on Tuesday 15-10, 15-6

Volleyball Leaders (through 4/12)

	Number	Avg./Gm.
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Kills

Joe Guntli	73	4.56
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Aces

Brian Guntli	15	0.94
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Assists

Brian Guntli	160	10.0
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Serve Receptions

Greg Vollmer: 41 attempts, 0 errors

In-line Hockey record: 3-4

Goals For: 21

Goals Against: 30

In-line Leaders

Name	G	A	PTS
Nate Linneman	6	4	10

Paul LaMartina 5 3 8

Dane Moody 4 3 7

Friday, April 11, 2003

SLUH 2 Hazelwood 3

Jr. Bills' scorers: Paul LaMartina, Nate Linneman

Assists: Clint Mohs, Dane Moody

Goalie Luke Hogrebe: 34 min., 20 shots, 17 saves

Baseball record: 8-1

Box scores

Friday, April 11

Teams R H E

Mehlville 3 10 2

SLUH 5 3 0

Saturday, April 12

Teams R H E

Fredricktown 0 3 0

SLUH 3 11 0

Pitchers (4/12) IP H R ER BB K

Mike Ikemeier 4.0 2 0 0 0 6

Matt McArthur 1.0 0 0 0 0 2

Tony Sneed 2.0 1 0 0 0 2

(W) Ikemeier 1-0, (S) McArthur 2

Team Leaders, RBIs

Andy Hecht 9

Adam Twellman 7

Joe Palumbo 7

Dave Records 5

Home Runs

Dave Records 1

Pat Feeney 1

Tyler Faulstich 1

Hits

Pat Feeney 14

Adam Twellman 13

Andy Hecht 12

Joe Palumbo 8

2B

Pat Feeney 3

Three tied 2

3B

Pat Feeney 2

Joe Palumbo 2

Golf record: 3-2

Played at Normandie versus CBC Tuesday (night)

To play in MCC Tournament Thursday at Stonewall

Track

All-Catholic Meet 3rd place

To compete at Webster Invitational Wednesday

Tennis

Lost 4-3 on Tuesday against Marquette

Plays Parkway Central away, at 4:00 p.m. tomorrow

MORRIS AND ENGLE

(from 3)

able to defeat the British Empire in India peacefully, which had just as much control over the people in India as Saddam Hussein had over the Iraqi people. Why does the U.S. want to change the regime in Iraq? It started out as part of the war on terrorism because of Saddam Hussein's alleged connection to al-Qaeda, but now it is about freeing the Iraqi people. Why has the U.S. completely changed its sole purpose for being there? Maybe it's the fact that the CIA acknowledged that there was no connection between Iraq and al-Qaeda, thus effectively killing the initial principal reason.

There is a theory known as the Just War Theory, which is a teaching of the Catholic Church, as well as many other Christian denominations. This theory outlines individual criteria for the only time that war is acceptable. Every criterion in the theory must be met for the war to be just. One of the criterion states, "A just war can only be fought to redress a wrong suffered." For example, self defense against an armed attack is considered to be a just

cause. The pre-emptive strike, besides violating Article 51 of the Geneva Convention, violates this principle of just war. This war doesn't redress any wrong suffered by America. People will claim that this war is self-defense in regards to the September 11 attacks. The September 11 attacks were not armed attacks; they were criminal, which doesn't allow for this war to be considered a just war even if one could somehow propose that Saddam Hussein had something to do with September 11.

The United States has been very hypocritical in this war effort as well. We have criticized Iraq for violating the Geneva Convention when they displayed POWs on national television. The U.S. has broken the same convention twice. We first violated it with the delayed pre-emptive strike, which violates Article 51. There is no validity in the pre-emptive strike because it was not carried out immediately, which is necessary to wage war within the rules of the Geneva Convention. The U.S.

has also violated Article 3 by killing civilians at checkpoints.

Storm made the mistake that we have seen many uninformed people make, saying that we "disgrace the troops who are over in Iraq fighting for our right to protest" when we protest the war. Someone who is anti-war is not anti-troops. We are against the war; we are not against the troops. When they come home (hopefully soon), we will be happy they are safe; we are not going to spit on them or call them names.

In these very hectic times, we don't always have enough time just to sit down and think for a little while. We challenge everyone, both for and against war, to sit down, have an open mind, and think about this situation in which we are putting ourselves. Even if you do not come to the same conclusion, at least you will have the reassurance that you have thought it out fully.

Activists for peace,
Nick Engle, '03 and Matt Morris, '03

by Brian Fallon

Calendar

Apr. 16 - Apr. 25

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

Schedule R
 Senior Graduation Invitations @ HR
 College Visits:
 St. Louis University @ AP
 Sophomore MAP Test @AP
 Freshman Class Liturgy @ AP
 Junior Water Balloon Toss @ AP
 V/JV TN @ Parkway Central @ 4:00 pm
 V TR @ Hixon Junior High @ 4:00 pm
 V/JV VB @ Parkway West @ 4/5:00 pm
 C LAX @ Lafayette @ 5:00 pm
 Bosco Sticks & Mostoccoli

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

No Classes
 Holy Thursday
 Faculty In-Service
 V BB vs University City @ 4:15 pm
 B BB vs University City @ Heman Park @ 4:15 pm
 V GF @ Stone Wolf @ 8:00 am
 V/JV TN @ Chaminade @ 2:00 pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

No Classes
 Good Friday

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

Holy Saturday

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

Easter Sunday

MONDAY, APRIL 21

No Classes
 Easter Monday
 C BB vs Vianney @ Heine Meine @ 4:15 pm
 V GF @ Players Club @ 8:00 am
 V/JV TN @ Kirkwood @ 4:00 pm

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

Schedule R
 AP Econ Review
 Freshman English Tutorial @ AP
 Sophomore & Junior Mental Meltdown @ AP
 Illinois Wesleyan University @ AP
 Sisyphus Artwork Due
 V BB vs Vianney @ 4:15 pm
 B BB @ Vianney @ 4:15 pm
 V GF vs Chaminade @ Glen Echo @ 3:30 pm
 JV GF vs Chaminade @ Normandie @ 3:30 pm
 V LAX vs Webster Groves @ Soccer Park @ 7:00 pm
 JV LAX @ Webster Groves @ 5:00 pm
 Taco Sticks & Pizza

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

Schedule H
 Dress Down Day
 2020 Vision Presentation
 All Chorus @ NCEA Convention
 Mothers Club Fashion Show & Dinner
 B BB vs Hancock @ Heine Meine @

4:15 pm

V/JV TN vs Vianney @ 4:00 pm
 JV TR @ Hixon Junior High @ 4:00 pm
 V/JV VB @ Vianney @ 5/6:00 pm
 C LAX vs Lafayette @ 5:00 pm
 Club Wraps

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

Schedule R
 Sophomore MAP Testing
 AP Econ Review
 Freshmen & Sophomore Mental Melt-down @ AP
 Rosary @ AP
 V BB vs Rockwood Summit @ Rockwood @ 4:15 pm
 B BB vs Rockwood Summit @ Summit @ 4:15 pm
 V GF vs DeSmet @ Normandie @ 3:30 pm
 JV GF @ Creve Coeur @ 3:30 pm
 V/JV TN vs John Burroughs @ 4:00 pm
 V TR @ Ladue Invit. @ 4:00 pm
 V LAX vs Parkway West @ 7:00 pm
 JV LAX vs Parkway West @ Compton Drew @ 5:00 pm
 Funnel Cake & Toasted Ravioli

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

Schedule M
 Formal Attire
 Awards Assembly
 B BB @ Westminster @ 4:15 pm
 Mac 'n Cheese & Fish

NAPPIER

(from 4)
 week claim that I do not have the right to protest a war that I feel is unjustifiably destructive to human life. I am convinced that this war is destructive to Christ's mission, yet I am told to keep my mouth shut.

Leaders was correct to make the connection to the guest speaker. However, he may have misunderstood what Dershowitz was saying (in a debate shown in junior theology class). In fact, when he called us to take an active role against injustice, Dershowitz actually mentioned protesting the war in his examples, but the message I believe he was trying to express was non-partisan. The

point he hoped to convey was for us to find something, anything, about which we feel passionately and to defend it passionately. To say that someone who firmly disagrees with this war should remain silent is totally contrary to what was actually expressed in the debate.

Did Jesus remain silent over the Pharisees' hypocrisy? No. Did the apostles stop preaching the Word because Nero and his Roman Legions threatened them? No. In Romans 12:18, St. Paul writes: "Do everything possible on your part to live in peace with *everybody*" (emphasis mine). He does not say, "Do everything in your power to preserve peace, unless you are told to stop."

I, along with other promoters of peace,

should not simply concede. We will use any peaceful means to defend peace. If we have to drop to our knees and beg a murderer to stop, we will. If we have to say "please," we will, and, if we have to go to the streets to proclaim to our government that this war is wrong, we will.

Supporter of Peace,
 Paul Nappier '04

C O R R E C T I O N

In last week's issue, guidance counselor Dave Mouldon's band name was incorrectly named in Mom Prom box on page 9. The correct name for the band is Swirl, not Squirrel.