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# Prep News



*"If nothing else, value the alumni donations"*

VOLUME LXVII

ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL, TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2003

ISSUE ?

## Crack, booze now served in cafeteria

### Cloaked Figure Instigator

In response to student demand, the cafeteria will begin serving booze, crack, marijuana, opium, and horse tranquilizers on Monday.

"Well, we serve what the students want," said lunchlady Betty Yum-Yum. "With the recent success of the greasy fries and burgers, the drugs and booze clearly seemed to follow."

Said Yum-Yum, "Well, I'm not going to say students should be smoking crack, but when I put out carrot sticks, nobody buys them."

Alcohol will be offered at any time

during the school day, while the other drugs will be rotated throughout the week. "Now, I know some of you want horse tranquilizers everyday, but you'll just have to wait 'til Thursday," Yum-Yum said.

She added, "I don't want to see any students sneaking extra crack or opium underneath their weed. Stealing is clearly the biggest problem we have in the cafeteria."

Student response to the change has been positive. "I stick absolutely whatever makes me feel the best into my mouth, despite any health concerns," said one student.

His sentiments were echoed by every student in the school.



A cafeteria worker fills a Pepsi machine with booze.

In response to the decision to serve drugs and alcohol in the cafeteria, the Wellness Club sponsored a video game tournament.

## Tennis shoes allowed; students resort to arson, cannibalism

### Masked Wrestler Scum

Last Monday, Dean of Students Eric Clark's new rule allowing tennis shoes went into effect. On Tuesday, only half of the student body attended any of their classes. By Wednesday, the library had been burned to the ground. Thursday, five were reported dead. Widespread cannibalism ensued Friday.

"Well, I finally gave in," explained former Dean of Students Eric Clark. "I put tennis shoes on the dress code 'cause

they're more comfortable, students prefer them, and most of them look pretty nice. It was a lapse in judgement."

Shortly after the rule was made, Clark was fired by Principal Mary Schenkenberg. He now lives in the mysterious little-door room on the third floor in the science wing

Maintenance worker Scott Urban replaced Clark.

"Everything was fine Monday," said Urban. He added, "We did have see SHOES, 6



Anarchy follows new tennis shoe rule.

## CLOSED

(from 2)

Because of the disappointing behavior shown by the department throughout the school year, Clark met with President Paul Sheridan, S.J. and the SLUH Board of Trustees to decide whether the department should ever be opened again.

"I really see no need for it," said Clark, "It'll probably be for the best that the students aren't tormented and humiliated any longer."

Plans for the office include another storage room or a headquarters for the newest club at SLUH: The Rock 'em Sock 'em Robots Club.

Said Clark, "I think that that club will use the space more appropriately."

For now, science classes will resume, and the teachers will have to use the pew across from the old science office.

Said biology teacher Tim O'Keefe, "I like pews. I'm just glad I wasn't involved in any of this to begin with."

# Science department closed indefinitely

## Disgruntled Employee Wildwood

Recently, horseplay has become a problem among the faculty in the science department. After receiving numerous warnings from Assistant Principal for Student Affairs Eric Clark, the science office has been closed indefinitely.

Clark expressed his disappointment in his colleagues, saying, "These men and women should know better. It's not every day that I have to correct them for taunting students who pass the office, but recently the issue has gone too far. Good night!"

As Clark observed Friday during activity period, the science teachers were acting "obnoxiously" by mocking sophomores for not knowing chemical equations and ridiculing juniors for their lack of knowledge of quantum physics.

## Zarrick fulfills duties as Plant Manager

### Chump Zilla Stumper

On Thursday, Plant Manager Patrick Zarrick fulfilled his duties with a watering can and a little bit of tender, loving care.

"Well, just about every day, I water the plants near the switchboard and in the Jesuit Wing," said Zarrick.

There are about six plants in all to be watered: two on the switchboard, one in the Jesuit Wing foyer, and three in the Oakland doorway.

"Sometimes I sing a little bit to them, too. They like that," smiled Zarrick, humming a snatch of what this reporter assumes is a plant-growing song; if not, it's probably just some elevator music off of Smooth Jazz 106.5 fm.

Explaining his plant-growing phi-  
see PLANT, 3

"It was terrible," said one sophomore. "Mr. Anderson and Mr. Busenhart were sitting outside the office grilling steak on a George Foreman grill and mocking me for not knowing the chemical equation for xanthan gum. I'm only a sophomore!"

Apparently, teachers Kent Kershenski and Mary Beckemeier joined in, taunting innocent students by throwing wet wads of paper at them and laughing maliciously.

Kershenski said, "What!? Oh, come on! We were just having some fun. I don't know why Clark has to spoil it for us. WK What!? What!?"

Said Busenhart, "Just because we were a little out of character doesn't mean we should have our room taken away.

Think about it, man! The sci department is a major flop pad for all my cool cats."

The office was closed when the entire staff, led by biology teacher and veteran Dan Shelburne, went into the

bathrooms and set off cherry bombs in all the toilets.

"It was a team effort," recalled Shelburne. "It reminded me of the day when I set some C4 off in a forest and yelled 'whooo-ee!'"

see CLOSED, 1



## Junior goes to store, steals nothing *"I guess I just wasn't thinking."*

### Champ Wallace Oaf

Junior Bryan German went to Hamilton's, a local department store, and, amazingly, paid full price for everything he bought

German said he went to the store just to buy a card for his mother, sister, father, and brother for Easter. "I don't know. I could have stolen some candy at the check-out line at least," said German. "I guess I just wasn't thinking, or maybe I wasn't hungry."

Dale Underwood, head of security at Hamilton's, said that the store loses approximately \$35,000 a year to SLUH shoplifters. Dale said, "That (German boy) looked at me and told me to have a nice day...It's not too often we see young people act like that nowadays."

German reportedly walked into the store at around 1:45 p.m. on Wednesday and left around 1:52. He said, "I was thinking of stealing these real expensive coats they had up front...but that seemed a bit trite."

German went immediately to the greeting card section, walked to the pet department to look at the fish, and then went to check out. When the cashier undercharged German by four dollars, German corrected her. "I said to her, 'Ma'am, I think you undercharged me.' She just stared at me and then I thought 'Dammit! What am I doing?'" German continued, "The whole experience seems surreal now."

When told about German's actions, random old guy Robert Fletcher replied, "It's not too often you see teenagers with that kind of integrity."

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Hallway walking etiquette is dying

To the Editor:

Recently, as I walked through the corridors of my beloved U. High, I noticed that something wasn't normal. Things just aren't the way they used to be. As I sit here writing this lament, I am hard-pressed to remember a time when I could walk through these halls without someone else walking the opposite direction in my lane. Whether you're in the theatre or the Jesuit Wing, the problem is quite obvious.

I know that this problem hasn't always existed. Back in freshman year, everyone left sufficient space to their left for oncoming traffic. My friends and loved ones used to be jealous when I told them stories of how organized SLUH students were when they walked through the halls, but alas, those happy times are no more.

The first step to solving a problem such as this is to identify those responsible. I fully believe that the problem lies largely with those bloody sophomores. Keeping free space on the left is the least of their concerns. They regularly cease all forward velocity to boost their own egos with cackles and hand-slapping, which seems comparable to the behavior of some less evolved clans of monkeys. It is my most sincere hope that the addition of a Physics course to their curriculum next year will teach them that one can only achieve distance when the value of velocity is greater than zero. No, wait, distance can be achieved with negative values of velocity, too...Oh yeah, that's right. Distance can be achieved only when velocity is not equal to zero. Come on, guys, this stuff isn't hard, you just have to study it.

The freshman class has its own unique way of preventing pedestrian progress. It has its roots in the fact that the entire class wants to access their lockers only at the start of activity period and the end of the day. As a result, every freshman is attempting to use his locker at exactly the same time. Since this is clearly impossible, they seem to find the need to engage in some rudimentary form of human Tetris. This, in itself, is not a bad thing. By the laws of Tetris, an infinite volume of things can fit in an object of finite capacity if they are arranged properly. Unfortunately, we are seeing the results of a generation whose childhood was dominated by Pokemon rather than classic video gaming. From a vertical perspective, tons of open space is being left unused, and the result is a backup of freshmen from the hallway's western to eastern wall. During the day's two peak times, it is virtually impossible for the queues to travel unimpeded through the freshman hallway.

Another area in which students are guilty is in the use of "hard lefts" to navigate the halls. This maneuver is the epitome of bad hallway walking. It consists of walking with one's left side in very close proximity to the wall, thus forcing oncoming walkers to leave their rightful lane to continue on their merry way. Then, when the student in question nears the end of the hallway, he will proceed to make a left turn while still hugging the wall, with no knowledge of what's coming on the other side. This

method of turning can take anyone who is making a perfectly justified "hard right" turn by surprise. Recently this problem has been further complicated by groups who make the hard left in one synchronized motion. Such an atrocity often leaves the outnumbered right-turner responsible for changing his route and making any apologies for the incident. To the student body, I ask—who gives you this authority? Why is it that the same people who wouldn't dare to make a left turn on a red in their cars don't think twice about using the same dangerous maneuver when travelling by foot?

I think these dangers are representative of a growing national trend. I believe this is part of a larger movement to "Britify" the United States. Sure, it starts with an influx of left-walkers. But, before you know it, we're living in flats and getting bottles of tea from our vending machines.

I see only one foolproof way of solving this problem. We need only to look to the airports.

The airports! We need to install moving floors in a clockwise-only direction. This will not only extinguish poor walking etiquette, but also reduce stress and increase student enjoyment of their daily routines. Instead of running to make it to class on time, they need to only jump, skip, or hop off of the moving floor and stride proudly into the room.

Sincerely, Hal Weigh

### PLANT

(from 2)

losophy, he said, "If you respect them, they'll respect you." He cited one tense moment in the administration's relations with the Jesuit wing plants: he once called his photosynthetic friends "young sprouts."

"They refused to grow for a week after that," he said.

"We're really proud of the work he's doing," said President Paul Sheridan, S.J. "The plant growth in the last couple of years here at this school has just been tremendous. Our previous (plant managers) have just watered the plants, but I think Patrick really sees the intrinsic goodness of each plant, and that has paid huge dividends."

One might think that merely watering six plants wouldn't warrant a third-floor office.

"Shhhhhhh," hushed Zarrick between giggles as he closed the door to his office. "I don't think Sheridan knows I'm up here yet." Upon further inspection, Zarrick's nameplate was actually just some cardboard, painted gold, glued to the wall.

In general, student response has been positive.

"We have plants at this school?" said one freshman, who wished to remain anonymous because he "always wanted to be an 'anonymous freshman.'"

Zarrick announced plans to bring more plants into the school, with an azalea in 2005 and, possibly, a cactus in 2007.

## \$50,000 in electronics stolen from Sheridan's car

### Wouldn't You Like to Know

Last Tuesday, President Paul Sheridan's 2002 H2, the same type of vehicle prep sports phenom LeBron James drives, was broken into in the upper lot. Inside the vehicle were ten CDs, a *Life* magazine, and \$50,000 worth of different types of electronic equipment. According to sources, the crime would have taken around five hours to complete. It is therefore quite amazing that no security guards saw the incident.

"Well, you see, I had two 25-disc CD changers hooked up to two separate sound systems, six DVD players, four PS2s, 17 television screens, three computers, a GPS system, and a tape player," said Sheridan.

Sheridan took a vow of poverty when

he joined the Jesuits. He defended his electronics, saying, "I had the equipment in the vehicle to help the intrinsically good young men at St. Louis U. High."

Though some say that six DVD players is a bit excessive, Sheridan countered, "Well, what am I supposed to do if I—I mean the students—want to watch the *Godfather* Trilogy and the *Star Wars* Trilogy at the same time, and I only have one DVD player?"

Director of Security Charlie Clark could not be reached for comment during school hours. But he was found after baseball practice and said, "Well, all the cameras and high tech equipment at the school are only helpful if someone is actually using or watching the equipment, and I was—agh—unfortunately, not at school that week."

When asked if the cameras recorded the crime, Clark responded, "Well, you see, the thing about the type of cameras the school uses is, well—okay, I'll level with you, I really don't know how to use any of the equipment in the school. I have Mr. Overkamp access my e-mail for me."

Though distraught after losing so many prized possessions, the next day Sheridan was in high spirits. The school bought him a brand new 2003 BMW Z8, reportedly to help student morale, and thus help the school. Sheridan's H2 was sold to a scrap metal yard for \$210.

According to sources close to Sheridan, next year's tuition will skyrocket to a whopping \$28,000, more than most colleges. When asked about the increase in tuition, Sheridan said, "It will be okay. No one has questioned the reasons behind past increases."

## SLUH accidentally purchases Gobi Desert

*Science department makes best of situation, proposes survival class*

### Vergil Poet

Lunchlady Kathy Hylla made what she called "a grave mistake" when she omitted an "s" from the dessert order form for next month's lunch menu. She then unknowingly sent the order form to Food Service Inc. "just as I did a hundred times before," said Hylla. Unlike the hundred or so times, this order form asked for "desert" instead of "dessert."

How Food Service Inc. had possession of the Gobi Desert in the first place is a bit of a question. They obviously assumed that for some reason Hylla meant to purchase the Gobi Desert instead of a surplus of delicious cookies.

"Mmm, gooey cookies," drooled science teacher Tim O'Keefe.

Said a representative from Food Service Inc., "The land in the Gobi Desert formerly owned by Food Service Inc. is now under the control of St. Louis University High School. It is being used for the harvestation of 'foodstuffs.'"

Upon hearing the statement, a sur-

prised senior uttered, "So that's where tacquitos come from." He continued with his own theory of Food Service Inc.'s use of the desert: "It's very obvious to me what the desert is used for," the senior said. "It's their next step in world domination." He elaborated, saying that the first step of their plan is to take money from the elite upper class via adolescent pockets. "That step of the plan is obviously well under way," he confirmed.

All is not lost, despite the fact that SLUH has accidentally purchased hundreds of miles of useless land continents away. The ever optimistic Plant Manager, Patrick Zarrick, has already proposed a Survival Techniques course, which would be taken as a science credit. In the spirit of bolstering GPA's, the class, which will be held during the summer, will also be taken on a pass/fail basis. "The objective of the course is fairly straight-forward. If you live, you pass. If you don't, well..." Zarrick trailed off. He later confirmed that dying while in the desert assumes a failing grade. "We expect a 90% success rate," stated Zarrick.

Some faculty members aren't as optimistic as Zarrick. "Hasn't he ever read *Lord of the Flies*?" asked freshman English teacher Tim Curdt.

Zarrick assured the *Prep News* that there would be no eating of people while in the desert. He would not comment on whether or not he was willing to die for that belief. Apparently, students are willing to take that risk. Rex Henderson, senior and current Outdoor Experience Club President, complained, "We didn't have anything near that cool last year." When asked about the Gobi's harsh climate, which is actually quite cold, Henderson replied, "I'm sure Zarrick has it figured out. Ha! Well, we could just have lots of blankets. Or something."

President Paul Sheridan, S.J., offered the definitive position on SLUH's newly acquired international classroom. "When we learned of the error, we did just as we would teach our boys to do," Sheridan said. "We problem solved and came up with a solution that could really further the school, intrinsically."

# Monahan falls off roof, loses two teeth

**Kay Quinn**  
**Health Beat**

As AP U.S. History teacher Dr. Dano Monahan set out to finish “my one last thing to do” before starting the strenuous school year, he thought he’d be fixing only an out-of-place wind turbine on his roof. Instead, he ended up making an unexpected trip to DePaul Health Center because of a bad fall from that roof, leaving him with eight stitches on his head and a possibly broken seventh cervical vertebra.

The accident happened last Wednesday, when Monahan decided to fix a faulty wind turbine that was no longer keeping his attic cool. Already on top of the first story of his house, he laid a ladder up against the second story to get at the wind turbine, something he’s been doing for years. Unfortunately, halfway up the ladder, it started to slide to the side and tipped over. Monahan realized what was happening too late, and he fell to the first story roof, leaving him with several bruises.

However, his trouble didn’t end there. His head at the bottom of the inclined roof and his feet above him, he tried shifting to where his legs would be on the downslope.

# Clark receives thesaurus, changes sayings

**Lord Nerdm**  
**Conclave of Whiners**

Last Friday, Assistant Principal for Student Affairs H. Eric Clark astounded students while making an unsuspected alteration of the usual routine of the afternoon announcements. While delivering the afternoon announcements, Clark commented on recent thefts. He cautioned students to lock their lockers and not to use the cubby holes in front of the cafeteria. He then proceeded to say that “There are *robbers* among us.”

“I had no idea what he was talking about. I was flabbergasted,” stated junior Jack Ryan, who has been concerned about the recent breathalyzer robbery.

Upon questioning, Clark confessed that he had received a thesaurus from his

Unfortunately, as he put it, “Being a gymnast was never one of my priorities,” and, in his attempt to center himself, he rolled on his side and tumbled off the roof. On his way down, his head struck the side of his air conditioner, leaving a substantial gash. The fall also may have cracked his seventh cervical vertebra and poked two teeth out. Completely out of whack, he wiggled his fingers to make sure nothing was wrong with his spinal cord and found everything all right, but he was bleeding badly from the head.

So, he found a seat on his patio furniture and held a towel to his head. Because his wife works as a preschool teacher, she wasn’t home at the time, but luckily his next-door neighbor called 911.

Monahan encountered even more problems once he got to the health center. Two attendants started arguing as to whether he was a trauma two or three case and left him waiting in pain for quite a while. Monahan later commented that “It was like something out of a Woody Allen movie.” Monahan then underwent some x-rays and CAT-scans to determine the severity of the injury and the final diagnosis was a concussion and possibly fractured seventh clavicle.

family for Christmas.

“It took me a while to learn how to utilize it, but I finally got the hang of it,” said Clark. “I hope to implement the phrases ‘crook,’ ‘stealer,’ and ‘burglar’ in future announcements, instead of the traditional thief.”

This has caused students to ask if other key “Clark” phrases will change. Clark responded with a resounding “affirmative.” The most notable change will be that, from now on, the gymnasium will no longer be “transformed” to the house of the Lord. It will be changed/altered/temporarily switched to the residing place/crib/hangout of the Son of Man/Almighty/the Alpha and the Omega.

“That’s nine possibilities. It’s crazy!” said an excited Clark.

Clark also commented that he would

The doctors still aren’t sure as to the extent of the injuries though, specifically the possibility of a fracture to his seventh cervical vertebra, prompting Monahan to comment, “I guess that’s why they call it the practice of medicine: they’re still practicing.”

He was kept overnight, but was released Thursday and given some painkillers. Nurse Scott Gilbert, R.N., said that Monahan is a very lucky man to even be alive. “Worst-case scenario that could have happened was the good possibility of sustaining a paralyzing blow, if not death.” He also added that the air conditioner Monahan struck on the way down, “may have been a blessing in disguise.”

It’s possible the injuries Monahan sustained would have been worse if he didn’t hit the air conditioner and landed squarely on the ground below.

While recuperating, the recently-retired Dr. Richard Mueller filled in for Monahan’s AP U.S. History classes. But the injury didn’t keep him out long, as he arrived back for a full day on Tuesday. Although he does admit, “My days as a high-wire trapeze artist are over...Hopefully we’ll keep some people off roofs.”

have a new way of describing student appearance on formal attire days. “It’s going to be hard to say something like, ‘You guys look sharp,’ but I hope to do it,” said Clark, “Maybe I’ll even use ‘slick.’”

Most faculty members have had a positive reaction to Clark’s new vocabulary. AP United States history teacher Dano Monahan said, “I wish those damn students of mine would get a thesaurus.”

Math teacher Tom Flanagan also had some comments. “Neeargh, the crew on me ship believe this Clark to be a fine sailor. Y’ar, what think ye, Polly?” he remarked as he looked at the stuffed parrot attached to his shoulder with old clothespins.

When asked about his newfound vocabulary, Clark responded “Get out of my office.”

# Harrison abandons left wing views

Ski Timchowpie  
3.141592654

After nearly fifty years of being a left-winger, history teacher Jeff Harrison, S.J., declared in a homily this past Tuesday morning that he believes conservatives have had the right idea for years now.



Before: Harrison on the left

"I was reading this back issue of *The Economist* when my views switched," Harrison said in an interview following the homily. "I had never read it before, but Economics teacher Peggy Pride told me there

were many great articles in it. Of course I didn't believe her. I mean she's always been one of the most conservative teachers in this school. I didn't want to read the conservative mumbo jumbo I've heard *The Economist* puts out, but I figured I'd

read the magazine just for laughs," Harrison said, "I was totally awed and born again when I read in the lead article that President (George) Bush's Administration has justification for invading Iraq."

Harrison continued, citing the magazine, "Here's where my heart changed: '(Americans) will cite as justification both their own security and Iraq's dozen years of non-compliance' with all the previous resolutions as a just reason for going to war."

"All this time I was thinking that he was complying, and it totally contradicted what (Lead U.N. Weapons Inspector) Hans Blix had been saying about Iraqi compliance," Harrison said.

Harrison said he has lofty goals in his new found conservatism.

"I won't be attending any more damn rallies, that's for sure," Harrison said. "I might even begin to argue that a person deserves to keep the income he makes from a hard day's work. I mean who knows, maybe Bush's most recent tax cut did allow some people to improve their lives."

When questioned about his former belief that the United States should switch to a Soviet-style centrist government, Harrison began to cry.

"So I've made some mistakes in my life," Harrison moaned. "I've vowed to change. Tomorrow I was thinking of writing a letter to my senator, Jim Talent, thanking him for the way he allows big business to expand the economy."



After: Harrison on the right

The *Prep News* also asked Harrison how he felt about being in the same conservative camp as theology teacher Jim Knapp, S.J. Said

Harrison, "Knapp's a conservative? No way! I had always wondered why he took an extra roll at dinner each evening. Knapp's 'extra roll' dinner antics have bothered me for years. Now I'll need to rethink this whole conservative thing."

## SHOES

(from 1)  
one freak-out though."

"I don't know what happened," said Joe Billiken, the student who had the break down, "I just wanted that Code Red Mountain Dew so bad. But those buttons were so hard to press. If soda machine buttons are not the size of Rhode Island, I can't be blamed for not being able to press them."

When class attendance dropped nearly 50 percent Tuesday, it became clear that the new infestation of tennis shoes was causing a problem.

"Yahoo! We're wearing tennis shoes! Who gives a flying (expletive deleted) about classes! Nothing matters anymore! Someone give me something to smash!" exclaimed one student Tuesday.

"Apparently comfortable shoes cause students to become apathetic slime balls," said Schenkenberg.

Wednesday the administration decided to abandon Plan Sell School To Pepsi and shifted all focus to maintaining a learning environment. However, the students, led by an unknown senior wearing a black cloak with a pentacle on it and Air Force Ones, responded to the

administration's pleas to return to classes by burning the library to the ground.

"These hip tennis shoes give me ultimate authority over the rest of my minions, both stylishly and politically," said the cloaked leader.

After teachers attempted to force students into classes, a revolt cornered the teachers in the library, which was then set on fire. Fortunately, the trapped teachers escaped through the windows onto the upper field.

However, the Robinson Library wasn't so lucky. All of the school's books and microfilm was destroyed.

When questioned about the decision to burn the library, one student responded, "Why shouldn't we burn the library? We're wearing tennis shoes."

Thursday, teachers and administrators did not come to school out of fear. However, most students still attended (mostly so I could keep writing this article).

A small band of students who had not given up their dress shoes posed an anti-anarchy protest on the upper field. Sadly, a mob of students chanting "Our wildness is directly proportional to the comfort of our shoes" quelled the protest by shoeing the

protestors to death.

"We must seek out and destroy anyone who doesn't wear tennis shoes," said Jack Huls, "Our shoes are more important than you could ever imagine. Sucks to your ass-mar!"

The cannibalism began Friday morning.

"Cafeteria prices are a worry of the past," commented one student, gnawing on a piece of warm flesh.

Another student expressed some concern about the cannibalism. "Well, while in theory I don't believe in the consumption of human flesh, realistically, while wearing tennis shoes...It's so hard not to."

Fortunately for the administration, the cannibalism quickly decimated the school's population. Led by biology teacher Dan Shelburne, teachers swarmed the school and retook several key areas before restoring order to the school. By Monday, Urban had declared tennis shoes illegal and student behavior immediately returned to normal.

"Just goes to show you," said Urban, "It makes perfect sense to be paranoid about student behavior if something so crucial as tennis shoes is added to the dress