

Prep News

VOLUME LXVI ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2001

ISSUE 13

Schenkenberg selected as 18th principal *Former Nerinx principal is 5th female principal of a Jesuit high school*

Andy Neilsen
Editor in Chief

At a faculty meeting on Wednesday, St. Louis U. High President Paul Sheridan, S.J., named Dr. Mary Schenkenberg the first female principal in its history: Schenkenberg will fill the position beginning next fall, after current principal Robert Bannister retires.

History teacher Jeff Harrison's reaction reflected the sentiments of many when he said simply that he was "surprised."

As the first female principal at SLUH and one of only four female principals at Jesuit high schools in the nation, Schenkenberg will be under scrutiny at first. However, Dr. Rick Breslin, head of the Principal Search committee, said that the committee was, not concerned about the gender question. (The committee) would find the best person for the job."

Breslin says that Schenkenberg's most important and impressive characteristic was the "experience that she brought to the table...25 years experience of progressive leadership in the (principal) business."

In contrast with the other candidates, Breslin sees everything on Schenkenberg's resume as "lived reality." He says that the committee found Schenkenberg's philosophy on education to be "exactly congruent with the needs and philosophy of this institution. She is the right person at the right time at the right place."

Breslin point of congruency was driven home in Schenkenberg's address to the faculty. "I've long known that Jesuits do education right, and I'm honored to

join their efforts," she said.

Breslin also cited Schenkenberg's integration of technology to Nerinx during her term as principal and her reverence of Jesuit education as qualities that would be valuable to her as SLUH's next principal. These were "three very qualified candidates. (She) was the most qualified. We made our unanimous recommendation," said Committee member and Chairman of the Board Ted Hellman.

"What we're trying to do here is goals (on) the Grad at Grad. There should be no distinction between sexes in terms



Outgoing principal Bob Banister and incoming principal Mary Schenkenberg joke after Wednesday's meeting

of leadership," Sheridan confirmed. "To me, it's never a question of gender. It's a

see DR. SCHENKS, 10

Camera installed in Senior hall

Matt Hoffman
Core Staff

Along with exposed wires, strangers carrying monitors and tinkering with security equipment SLUH saw a new camera being installed on the wall of the cafeteria end of senior hallway.

"We had some extra cameras that were videotaping the same areas," said Director of Security Charlie Clark, referring to the two cameras taping the Oakland entrance to the school. Clark added, "We wanted to spread the coverage out over the whole school." Monday, AES, the company hired by SLUH to install and maintain the security cameras, sent workers to SLUH to maintain the existing

cameras and move a security monitor from Eric Clark's office to Charlie Clark's office.

Knowing AES would be at SLUH, Clark requested that they move one of the cameras covering the Oakland entrance to a location where they could see both the food service entrance and the middle doorway in the senior hall. "I'm concerned with somebody getting through the middle doors, say the use a crowbar or something," Clark explained, "I would want to get a good picture of them and inside cameras are better at getting a good picture of (intruders)." The outside cameras produce fuzzier images and "people can walk along the wall, making it real hard

see EYE, 12

Class of '06 admission process takes shape

Applicant pool down 8% from last year's 360

Geoff Brusca
Reporter

You know you applied. You know you interviewed. You know you got in. But you don't know what happened behind the scenes to get you accepted. And what's happening behind the scenes is very important with the admission season just starting.

This year's eighth graders, the SLUH class of 2006, have been feverishly working for the past few months to bulk up their credentials in preparation for their application submission. And the deadline for that submission expired this week, on Monday, Dec. 3, although SLUH is still unofficially accepting late applications.

330 applications have been submitted this year, a number down from last year's 360. SLUH Assistant Principal for Academics Mark Michalski attributes the unexpected low number to "the relatively few number of eighth graders" in Catholic grade schools right now. "Student applications come up and down (from year to year), like waves," Michalski said.

SLUH will accept approximately 265 students this year, as the administration wants to keep the SLUH population at about 1000 students. The school hasn't been losing many students due to what had been the recent economic stability and parents staying put.

Despite fewer applications, SLUH has done very well recruiting this year,

with Open House deemed "extremely successful." But, like other trends in SLUH applications this year, the number of families who attended the Open House was lower than expected.

SLUH received 30 applications from minority students this year, or just under 9.1% of the applicants, an average to slightly-above-average number. "There are just about no trends in minority applications," Michalski pointed out.

The grade schools with the highest number of applicants, were, surprisingly, Blessed Sacrament- Belleville, Ascension-Chesterfield, and St. Margaret-Mary, the first year any of those grade schools have been in the top three.

STUCO kicks off annual Bosnian drive

40 families to benefit from collection

Paul Hoglebe
Reporter

There is no better time than the holidays to serve as "Men for Others" in the community. The upcoming Bosnian goods drive will provide the perfect opportunity to help others in the spirit of the season and to cultivate a sense of gratitude in willing volunteers.

The Bosnian drive provides needy Bosnian immigrants with basic domestic necessities. The goods drive serves St. Pius V parish, which has a large immigrant congregation. Many of the immigrant parents are searching for work, making seemingly rudimentary items too expensive to buy. Donated items include mainly toiletries and house cleaning supplies. Each homeroom sponsors one of 40 families that become its exclusive project.

Student Council serves as the organizer for this event. Said STUCO moderator Brock Kesterson, "SLUH acts as the liaison between the parish and the

needy families." STUCO's officers have been visiting homerooms, explaining the process of item collection, and passing out collection laundry baskets, but the majority of this responsibility falls upon the shoulders of the homeroom representatives. Their task is to motivate their classmates and make sure they bring in their assigned items.

Sports Commissioner Adam Shukwit commented, "We really appreciate the efforts of our homeroom reps."

A student who would like to bring in something in addition to the listed items should find out specifics about his homeroom's family. For example, if the family has a young girl, a simple doll would make a great supplementary gift. Kesterson added, "Anything above and beyond is great, and greatly appreciated."

He advised against giving cash, though, mainly because it is not as immediately applicable as the domestic goods.

The distribution will occur on Dec. 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., and

STUCO invites everyone to participate. Students should know that families often invite the pseudo Santas into their homes to visit. Although there is usually no extensive conversation (English is their second language), volunteers see the thankfulness in their faces.

As Religious Affairs Commissioner Brian Wacker concluded, "It's nice to give back during a time when everyone is so focused on themselves. There is so much other stuff going in this time of year, it helps to put things in perspective."

Quote of the Week

"What is a wedding? Well, Webster's dictionary defines a wedding as the act of pulling weeds from one's garden."

-Homer Simpson

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

J. Neilsen questions student attitudes toward female principal

Editor's note: This letter was composed before Dr. Schenkenberg was announced as the next principal.

To the Editor:

I must say I am pleased to see our school so involved, perhaps because of the extensive *Prep News* coverage, in the current search for a new principal. Three candidates await the decision of the Search Committee, and students and teachers are anxious to learn who will lead the school in the near future. It is good to see that we as a community actively participate in the decisions that will affect us. It is not too difficult to find someone around the school discussing the search and the candidates. I am concerned, though, about the nature of recent discussions which have centered around Mr. Hannick and Dr. Mary Schenkenberg.

Most people have some opinion on the subject: this candidate could bring this to the school, that candidate might change something we like, and I have heard some students expressing concern that Dr. Schenkenberg may not be the right person for the job. Such opinions are fine as long as they are based on facts. Unfortunately, I have not yet heard one argument against Dr. Schenkenberg that fits that description.

What I do hear is intelligent young men trying to justify not wanting a woman to be principal. Most often, students attempt to disguise that sexism as concern for Dr. Schenkenberg; they don't think she can handle it. Handle what? Is it the crude sexual jokes? Would the arrogant attitude of sexual superiority overpower her? If these students are referring to the shocking difference between our claim to be "Men for Others" and the way we tend to treat women, I think it's enough to do anyone in.

Others claim that it's not our fault. Women are too sensitive, they say. But how can you blame a person for being

offended when you offend them? It doesn't matter if it was just a joke. A joke does not excuse its content by virtue of being a joke. We may not want to admit it, but our actions and our words have consequences, and if what we say offends people, we need to change.

Still others worry that Dr. Schenkenberg might do something that would damage SLUH as a school or community. I would like to know what the basis of that concern is, aside from her gender. This woman is just as qualified as the other candidates. All three know what it means to be principal and I'm sure, given the SLUH presence in St. Louis, know what this school means to us. They will not change it on a whim.

Furthermore, to those of you who argue that having to learn all about running our school would make her job rather different, all jobs have some training period. Our next principal, no matter who it is, will need to learn how best to run the school and will certainly have the assistance of Fr. Sheridan, Mr. Michalski, and the rest of our administrators.

Do not worry that a principal we don't know will hurt the school. Worry instead that we will hurt it ourselves. If anything can hurt a school with such a strong tradition of intelligence and influence, it is ignorance. Students who refuse to be open to growth should reconsider their choice to be part of the SLUH community, because if sexism is as big a part of the SLUH attitude as it seems, then what we need more than anything is change. All I ask is that you think before you speak. Think before you judge someone. There is no need to offend people, no need to hurt people. The best way to show what it means to be a part of SLUH is to act carefully, thoughtfully, and respectfully.

Joey Neilsen, '02

Students should have been notified about principal decision

To the Editor:

This letter is in response to the recent appointment of the new principal. I am not going to discuss whether or not she is qualified or the fact that she is a female. I am sure she is qualified for the position and that she was the best candidate for the job. I also am not trying to knock down the administration for the decision because they are qualified to make the right choice. The fact that she is coming from being a principal at Nerinx (all girls) to SLUH, an all boys school, makes no difference in my mind. Dr. Schenkenberg will make a fine transition.

The thing that personally bugs me about the situation is that we as students of SLUH were not the first to know. We found out either on the news or from a friend who watched the news on Wednesday night. I believe that, out of respect, we as students

should have the right to be the first to know before the entire St. Louis area.

This is our school, and we are not the minority. We are the majority as students. It would have been nice to have a say or some input into the type of principal that was hired into our school. Would that have even made a difference? Probably not, because in the end the heads of the school would make the final decision.

The administration has talked about how they are looking out for our interests and our needs, but I don't believe that this was the case. Maybe the administration was looking out for us, but actions speak louder than words. In this situation, the actions contradicted the words. Thank you.

Adam Siebenman, '02

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Father of Kirkwood suicide victim remembers son, warns others

Editor's note: the following is a letter written by Gary Koeneker, the father of David Koeneker, a senior at Kirkwood High School who committed suicide the Monday before Thanksgiving. Koeneker read this letter on Kirkwood's morning video announcements the following week, and agreed, via an intermediary, to have it published in the Prep News.

David just turned 18 on November 17 and was maturing and making plans for the future in many ways. He was a gifted student with a 3.6 GPA and was earning a 3.9 GPA this semester. He was very involved in the media department at school, was on student council, practicing for one of the school plays as well as many other activities. He gave blood after the September 11 attacks to help the victims in New York. He had many, many friends.

He was in the process of planning which college to attend in addition to planning a spring break trip to Mexico with a number of his senior buddies. We talked about going on a brief ski trip over President's holiday and a couple of days ago I just found a new pair of ski gloves that he recently purchased. We just received some pictures we took on the night of the Friendship Dance and he was nothing but smiles. We celebrated his birthday the following day and again we saw his wonderful grin.

In many ways he was a gentle mental and physical giant to us. He was working out and went from this wiry kid to the tallest and probably strongest in our family. Last March our family went on a cruise and David, Brian and John, David's older brothers, and I played a pick-up game of basketball with four other guys on this ship. These other guys were in their 20's and 30's. No doubt I was the oldest one on the court by far. I started to guard one of

the opponents and he wiped me out on every play. I switched and put David on this full grown man who was the tallest guy on the court and David literally man-handled him. We won the game thanks mainly to David. About two months ago David challenged me to an arm wrestling contest. I reluctantly agreed. I gave it my best shot. He took me down three times—in a row. I think I told him that I was feeling a little sick that day and that was why he beat me. We laughed because we both knew it was not true. What a bittersweet moment for a father to lose the match yet at the same time see his son grow into a young man. I asked him for a rematch six months later to give me time to work out in the gym. He agreed. Unfortunately that match will never take place, although if it did he would have probably kicked my butt again.

David's two brothers remember how when he was three, his mother took the three of them shopping. Excitedly, David inquired, "How much dollars can we waste?"

David's mother will always fondly remember hiking the Grand Canyon—all 17 miles—side by side with David because she was bringing up the rear and he insisted on staying with her. And every morning and every night he kissed her and told her he loved her and she kissed him and told him she loved him, even though he was a Democrat. He laughed on his 18th birthday about being taken out to lunch by five women over 50.

The reason I am giving you all of this background is to give you a sense of our total shock when his death occurred. It seemed so inconsistent with all of the things David had going for him. Unknown to us, David suffered from an undiagnosed case of

see KOENEKER, 5

Bartz responds to poster vandalism

To the Editor:

As the parent of a recent SLUH graduate, I was sorely disappointed to read about the vandalizing of one of the flyers posted in the school announcing the talk by Dr. John Slozar about the U.S. Army's School of the Americas.

How sad that a SLU High boy felt a need to revert to hit-and-run tactics instead of open discussion. One may, of course, debate whether the United States should continue to partake in terrorist training for its own political agenda, but it is simply a fact that dozens, if not hundreds, of graduates of the so-called "School of Assassins" have actually participated in the brutal murders of civilians (including Jesuit priests) throughout Central America, and that the manual put out by the school is a model of terrorist guidelines. Even the Department of Defense admits to this. Your editorial writer did a superb job of challenging the misguided lad(s) to attend Dr. Slozar's talk and engage in debate. That's the spirit of SLUH that I've grown to love. May it continue and thrive.

Dr. Michael Bartz

Dr. Schenkenberg greets the student body

To the young men of St. Louis University High School:

Greetings! I was thrilled when Fr. Sheridan asked me to serve as your principal beginning next year. I know SLUH students to be bright, caring, committed young men, students I will be proud to work with and represent. My job as principal officially begins on July 1, but I may be on campus occasionally to meet with Fr. Sheridan and Dr. Bannister. If so, please stop me and say hello. I am anxious to hear from you what it means to be a SLUH student, what you value most at SLUH, and what your dreams are for your school community.

I plan to host listening sessions for students sometime near the end of the second semester. In the meantime, have a blessed Christmas and a successful end to the semester.

I received my first Jr. Bills hat yesterday and have been wearing it with pride. See you at the games, at the theater, and in the halls.

Mary Schenkenberg, Ph.D.

Speakers address School of Americas, India

Andrew Ivers
Editor in Chief

This week, two guest speakers provided the student body with their insights on human rights violations. John Slozar, a St. Louis University professor of social work, spoke on Monday about the history of protests against what was until recently called the School of Americas. On Tuesday, Cederic Prakash, S.J., who coordinates the United Christian Forum for Human Rights and directs the Xavier Social Service Society, spoke about religious turmoil in eastern India.

The U.S. government established the School of Americas at Ft. Benning in Columbus, Ga. in 1946 to train Latin and South American soldiers in special military techniques, commando tactics, torture, and execution.

The man who began the serious protests against the SOA is Roy Bourgeois, a priest who led a handful of hunger-strikers the week before Thanksgiving in 1990. By 1999, the number of participants at the

KOENEKER

(from 4)

depression—a chemical imbalance that he tried to deal with and he did not seek help for. On the surface he displayed typical teenage behavior—in fact David gave us very few problems—but under the surface this chemical imbalance caused him to suffer immensely. He did not display the typical characteristics of depression like withdrawal from friends, declining grades, or the inability to function. Instead, he masked over this situation. This is not just my theory. This is what we learned subsequent to his death with the help of a suicide professional and related evidence.

While we did not know about the depression, we did have several knock down drag out fights when we learned that he had been smoking pot. I don't know how often or how much or what other drugs he may have tried—I am sure some people at school know, but frankly

Ft. Benning protest had grown to 12,000.

Theology teacher Paul Spitzmueller coordinated Slozar's presentation. He met Slozar when he participated in the Ft. Benning protest when he was a student at SLU. Said Spitzmueller, "I wanted to bring awareness."

"I was really pleased with the turnout. I was really impressed with the staff that showed up," Spitzmueller said.

On Tuesday, Cederic Prakash, S.J., spoke to a handful of students about his work with over 90 Jesuit grade schools in Gujarat in eastern India. Ninety percent of the religious population of the region is Hindu, yet the schools serve both Hindu and Muslim slum dwellers.

There are over 300 Jesuits working in the region, yet due to the strong presence of Hindu nationals, who have practiced their religion in an unaccepting, fascist manner for over half a century, those men are strongly persecuted. Catholics, like Prakash, and other more accepting people in the area are frequently threatened and sometimes even physically attacked sim-

at this point it probably does not matter and I am not here on a witch hunt. I don't know for certain the exact medical impact

"He did not display the typical characteristics of depression like withdrawal from friends, declining grades, or the inability to function. Instead, he masked over this situation."

these drugs may have had on this depression, but I just can't fathom it helped his situation. I am not certain, but I have the impression that drug use among teenagers

ply because of the nationals' spartan acceptance laws.

Prakash said the nationals frequently twist his words for propaganda. Another example of their manipulation of history is their portrayal of Hitler as a hero, a great nationalist, in history books.

Such portrayals are for youth lucky enough to receive an education, though. Most drop out, hang out in street gangs, and frequently enter into area violence.

"Life is one big rejection, with ultimately no meaning, no future," Prakash said of typical slum dwellers, specifically high school-aged boys. "You have access to life," he said to the students present, "There are others like you who have no access to life."

Prakash also works as a proponent of the civil rights of people in the area and has a strong backing from those he protects. When he spoke out for shepherds who were being forced out of their only way of life by the government in the village of Aminabad, the shepherds warned the opposition, "If anything happens to (Prakash), Aminabad will burn."

is much more common than most parents perceive.

What I do know for certain is that my son is dead and I will never see him again.

Several students confided that they may also have some problems and David's death shocked them into seeking help. We applaud their courage. I am not naive enough to think that this message I am about to give will sink in with everybody, but I hope that if any good is to come from David's death, this grieving father and mother who stand before you, stressed out to the max, ask you ... I implore you, I beg you on my dead son's behalf ... to seek help if you think you need help and to simply stop using drugs, period. I bet if David could now speak he would say the exact same thing.

Despite all this, we are very proud of David, we still admire David, we love him without reservation and we will miss him immensely. Thank you.

Singletbills beat CBC, improve to 3-0

Mike Smallwood
Reporter

The Wrestlingbills had a challenging week against the Windsor Owls last Thursday and the CBC Cadets on Tuesday.

In the victory against Windsor, Rob Nahlik (112), Kevin Pape (160), and John Stathopoulos (275) picked up points for forfeits. These points, along with Boyd Gonnerman's (119) pin at 3:29, Justin Clerc's (145) 12-4 decision, and Dan Wankum's (171) pin in only 52 seconds accounted for SLUH's 36 points. The Owls were able to put up a challenging 33 points but the Jr. Bills held on for the victory to improve to 2-0.

On Tuesday, the cocky Cadets, as several team members described them, were a real test for the team. There were several "swing matches," as co-captain Colin O'Brien described them, matches that could go either way, that "we needed to win to win the dual."

Nahlik's victory against past state qualifier Don Schunk was "huge," ac-

ording to head coach Tim Curdt. Nahlik not only beat him, he pinned him at 3:29 to tie up the team score 6-6.

Gonnerman, after escaping the clasp of his opponent late in the 2nd period to tie the match at 5-5, got his opponent to a nearfall position in the 3rd period when it mattered to pick up three points for the win.

After several losses to the Cadets, SLUH was down 25-9 when Clerc (145) won another one of those important swing matches. Escaping from the down position he chose at the beginning of the 3rd period, he attacked his opponent with the quickness of a panther to take him down. Then he forced his opponent to his back at 5:16. Clerc's win started a SLUH

onslaught.

The "consistent" Chris Wagnitz, as Curdt described him, burst into the 3rd period for a pin at 4:17.

"Getting Colin (O'Brien) back in the line-up was comforting," said Curdt as



Chris Wagnitz drives a Windsor wrestler's head to the floor.

O'Brien (160) wrestled his first match of the year. He started where he left off last year, pinning another opponent by putting his legs in and riding him to a pinfall at 3:45.

John Orbe literally pummeled his opponent as the

Cadet he faced was almost disqualified on account of not being able to stop his bleeding. But when he finally did stop bleeding, Orbe continued to out-wrestle
see **CHOKER-HOLD, 11**

Basketbills lose opener, beat Lindbergh by 12

Reid Henderson
Reporter

The Basketbills kicked off the 2001-2002 campaign last Friday against the Indians of Pacific, Missouri. The game against Pacific marked the first SLUH varsity game under new coach John Ross, and Ross had his troops prepared for the first battle of the season.

Starting the game for the Jr. Bills were Kris Lowes, Adam Siebenman, Freddie Daues, Kevin Schroeder, and Matt Wyrwich. The game did not start off how the Jr. Bills expected, though, with senior big man Matt Wyrwich getting into foul trouble early. Wyrwich ended up only playing 8 minutes of the game because of non-stop petty calls every time he stepped on the court.

"Matt adds a different dimension to the team. He can do a lot of stuff that

other tall guys can't and losing him for a large part of the game hurt us a lot," said assistant coach Tim Rittenhouse.

Despite Wyrwich's limited playing time, he still added 7 points, going 3 for 4 from the field.

With the big man out, Phineas Troy and Sean Reidy stepped into the spotlight to take over for Wyrwich. Playing catch up ball early, the Basketbills jump-started their offensive attack late in the second quarter ending the half with a clutch shot by Kris Lowes and a tied score.

In the third quarter, the Jr. Bills took control of the game, especially after a two-handed dunk off a fast break by K-Lowes. Lowes, the leading scorer for the night, had 20 points and also added 5 assists. Even

though the Jr. Bills were leading going into the 4th quarter, a late run by Pacific could not be countered. With more questionable calls from the officials in the 4th quarter, including an "over and back" call

on Adam Siebenman that was reversed twice, the game slipped through the Basketbills hands.

"We watched the tape on Saturday, and no part of Adam's body crossed back over the line," said Wyrwich.

With the score still close late, in stepped Wyrwich. SLUH didn't, though, and that was the game. "We came into the game overconfident and not ready to play mentally," said senior Freddie Daues.

see **ORANGE BALL, 9**



Phineas Troy shoots against a tough Pacific team.

New coach Ross leads Jr. Bills up the floor

Kevin Moore
Sports Editor

Coming in as the head basketball coach at a large school like St. Louis U. High in a tough conference like the M.C.C. would be difficult enough. Replacing Don Maurer, whose dismissal after last year's season sparked controversy among some students, players, and alumni, puts a little more pressure on the incoming coach to lead the team to a competitive season. Star Troy Lindbeck's decision to transfer to a different school during the summer would force the coach to find more ways to produce. Yet head coach John Ross' transition to SLUH basketball has been smooth, and he expects the team to have a strong, exciting season.

Ross, who graduated from DeSmet in 1987, developed many of his ideas and attitudes at his previous coaching jobs. He first coached varsity basketball at Whitfield High School from 1993-94. While at Whitfield, he was the head coach of the girls' team and an assistant on the boys' team. "From coaching girls, I think I learned a better way to handle players," said Ross. "I've never been a yeller or a screamer. I try to never yell at an individual, and I think I learned that (at Whitfield)."

In 1994, Ross returned to DeSmet as an assistant coach. "At DeSmet I learned a lot of game strategy because I had great coaches to work with," he said. "At DeSmet there were good basketball players who could retain a lot of information, as opposed to just good athletes."

From 1998 until last season, Ross was the head coach at Brentwood High School. "At Brentwood I learned how to run a program and make decisions, and, to some extent, humility." Since Brentwood was such a small school, it was often difficult for Ross to find enough strong players to compete against other schools. However, coming to SLUH gives Ross the opportunity to coach at a school with

a larger pool of players.

Although he says coaching basketball takes more time at SLUH than it used to at other schools, Ross still manages to teach three sections of algebra. "It's something I've done since I started," he said. "The time spent here with basketball has been much greater than...in the past, but it's easier when you enjoy what you're doing."

In comparison to the other schools he has taught and coached at, Ross said, "(SLUH is) unbelievable...apples and oranges. But it's more than just basketball; it's the atmosphere. At DeSmet, students would mostly leave at 3:00, and only teachers would be left at school. That's



Ross instructs his players during the Pacific game. The Jr. Bills lost the game 53-46.

why I love St. Louis U. High...there are always people here until around 10:00 doing something."

Since he didn't know most of the SLUH players when he was hired, Ross took numerous steps to get to know them before school started. "We did a lot this summer (to get to know each other)," said Ross. "I met individually with the players and the parents." Ross also used time spent in open gym, a varsity camp, and tournaments to get to know the players.

Ross' strategy mainly involves strong defense and team scoring. "We always try to put defense before offense," he said. "We also center around the team concept. I like when many players score ten points

as opposed to one player scoring thirty."

After former coach Maurer's dismissal last year, it would be difficult for any new coach to follow such a controversial situation. "I realize (the situation) exists, but I just have to live through it and try to be who I am and hope things work out for the best," commented Ross.

Ross also is positive about Lindbeck's transfer to Collinsville High School. "I've still got players," said Ross. "That's a decision (Lindbeck) had to make. I'm still very happy with the players we have."

Assistant coach Tim Rittenhouse is excited about Ross and the team this year. "I think it's been a pretty good experience for everyone so far, coaches and players,"

said Rittenhouse. "From a coaching standpoint, Ross is very positive and energetic. Personally, I think he's innovative, both offensively and defensively. He brings new ideas that I've never seen, and he's open to all of his coaches' ideas."

Rittenhouse continued, "We have a group of seniors specifically that have some ideas about what they want to do, so they are very open to new ideas so they can achieve what they want to achieve. It's a great situation." Rittenhouse said one of the most exciting things this year

has been the players' "'Let's get to work'" attitude.

Of Ross' transition into SLUH basketball, captain Kris Lowes said, "It's been pretty smooth. He's such a nice guy. I think it helps that he's a teacher because he gets to know the student body outside of basketball. He's pretty easy to talk to, and he's proven he's an intelligent coach. A lot of the stuff we're doing this year is different, but I think it's going to work. He brings new energy to the game."

Ross believes that the Jr. Bills will be successful this season. "I hope we're doing our best at all times," he said. "Personally, I just hope I prepare our guys as best as our coaching staff can."

Icebills stick it to St. Mary's, Hazelwood Central

Brian Wacker
Reporter

“Any time you score 27 goals in your last three games, you are going to win some games.” So says head hockey coach Charlie Busenhart, whose Jr. Bills reeled off two more convincing wins over St. Mary's and Hazelwood Central.

The Stickbills scored a combined 18 goals in the two games, and they have 27 in the last three. At the same time, the Hull-and-Oates-Bills silenced the competition by shutting out both opponents. “We are really making steps offensively,” said Joe Mantovani, “without sacrificing our defense. It's great to win that way.”

The recent outburst can be largely attributed to the resurgence of seniors Mantovani, Bobby Lachky, and John Greffet. Combined, the trio has 21 goals. “They make it easy to coach,” commented Busenhart.

Last Saturday, the CavaliniBills hosted the Dragons of St. Mary's. The game seemed to be over before it started. SLUH lit the lamp 11 times, including two goals each from Greffet and Lachky. “We came out with intensity and controlled the game from start to finish,” said Lachky. Sophomore Charlie Effinger shut down the fire-breathing Dragon offense, recording his first shutout of the year.

The SergioMomessoBills went north

on Tuesday to take on the pesky Hawks from Hazelwood Central. SLUH came out flying, looking to extend Effinger's shutout streak. Again, SLUH feasted on their inferior opponents, handily shooting down the Hawks. With goals from Mantovani, Lachky, and Greffet, Bushenhart's H2SO4Bills came out with a 7-0 victory, extending Effinger's shutout streak and giving him two shutouts in as many games. Commented Lachky on his netminder, “He reminds me of a young Tim Cheveldae.”

The CraigMacTavishBills take on CBC at Affton tonight at 8 p.m. Warns senior Dennis Burke, “Be there or be square.”

Fishbills glide past Clayton, edge Lafayette

Swimmers beat two opponents by combined 111 points

Michael Petersen
Reporter

The Swimbills improved to 3-0 on Tuesday after crushing normally formidable foe Parkway Central at Forest Park. The victory came after the Jr. Bills defeated Clayton 138-42 last week and won for the first time in SLUH's history against traditional powerhouse Lafayette. After the 99-84 win over Lafayette, head coach Terry Murray commented, “I've been waiting a long time to beat these guys. They're not having an off-year. We just have a very deep team that can pick up points when it counts.”

The team's depth in all fields of swimming has been a crucial part of its success. SLUH's team is led by Greg Szewczyk and junior Tom Heafner, who each easily won their individual races and later helped out in the relays. Szewczyk qualified for state in the 100 Free (50.73) and 100 Back (56.52), while Heafner qualified for state in the 100 Butterfly (56.82) and 100 Breast (1:05.10).

Also lunging off the starting blocks is sophomore sensation Kurt Doll, who won and qualified for state in the 200 Free (1:53.61) and 500 Free (5:09.89).

“Other teams rely on one or two hotshots to score all the points for the team, but our team can pick up second,

glad I will have graduated because I just get chills thinking about how good we could be next year,” said Tim Roth. When combined with Szewczyk and Heafner, sophomores Nathan Harris and Brad Witbrodt helped to pull out a state qualifying time in the 200 Medley Relay at the Clayton meet.

Harris qualified for state the next day against Lafayette in the 100 Fly, while junior Carl Thompson also qualified for state in the 100 Breast.

“The Lafayette meet came down to the final race. That's how close it was,” said Heafner. SLUH however, would pull out the win as the senior-junior-sophomore-freshman combination of Szewczyk, Winslow Tandler, Doll, and Tim Heafner won first place in the 400 Free Relay, while also qualifying for the state meet.

The Murraybills take on many top teams in the St. Louis area today and Saturday as they travel to West County to participate in the notorious Marquette Relays.



The Swimbills' start at the meet against Clayton.

third, and fourth places for the times we don't get first,” said freestyler Jason Jacobi.

Many of the contributors to the team's 3-0 start are juniors and sophomores. “I'm

Racquetbills dominate Vianney in 6-1 victory

Chris Guilfooy
Reporter

The Racquetbills faced another tough opponent on Tuesday, as they took on defending state champion Vianney. The Jr. Bills had much momentum going into the game after defeating rival Kirkwood.

"The Gipper," a strong speech given by Notre Dame football coach Knute Rockne, was motivational and gave confidence to the Fighting Irish as they took on Army in 1928. The speech helped Notre Dame defeat their rival Army. In similar fashion, always serious Mike Gau gave his own rendition of "The Gipper" speech to prep the Jr. Bills for their big match against Vianney. While in tears, Gau motivated the Racquetbills to play a hard match and send the Golden Griffins home winless on the day.

The Jr. Bills opened strong, with three quick wins from Matt Soraghan, Mike Gau, and junior Chris Guilfooy. Second

ORANGE BALL

(from 6)

"Sometimes we think that the 'SLUH' on our chest will win the game for us and we forget that we have to come out and play," added Lowes. Whether it was overconfidence, first game jitters, or Pacific fans outnumbering SLUH's fans 10-1, the Basketbills lost their first game 53-46.

When the Basketbills stepped onto the court at Webster for the first game of the Webster Classic Wednesday night, they were determined to show everyone that the loss at Pacific was a fluke and they would not repeat that kind of performance, especially against Lindbergh.

Lowes set the tone in the opening seconds of the game, viciously attacking the hoop, making the basket, and drawing the foul. The Jr. Bills' flawless play put them up 14-0 before Lindbergh even hit their first shot. By the end of the first quarter, six different players had scored. The passes were crisp, the defense was dominating, and the shots were 100 percent cotton. Lindbergh looked confused, not knowing which scoring threat to try to

seed Joe Sharamitaro also won his game in quick fashion, 15-3, 15-6. Very quickly the Rolloutbills had four wins under their belts, and a victory over Vianney. However, the Jr. Bills were still shooting for a sweep.

Third-seed Andy Schumert played a strong match and also won, 15-11, 15-14. Tied 14-14 and about to lose the second game and move into a tie-breaker, Schumert and his opponent went back and forth for the win. Yet Schumert finally found his shot and put his opponent away to win the match.

The doubles team of junior Mike Brand and sophomore Phil Matthews took the court next against a tough Vianney team. They started strong and easily won

their first game 15-9. However, their opponents stepped their play up in the second game and crushed the doubles team, 15-5. Brand and Matthews then tried to



Preparing to serve, Guilfooy eyes his opponent.

regain their strength for the tie-breaker, yet they came up short because of poor shot selection, losing the match 11-6. Commenting on their play, Brand said, "Phil and I could not capitalize on the many opportunities we had to put them away."

Top seed Kevin Moore took on a very strong Vianney player to end the night for the Jr. Bills. Starting the game on a cold streak, Moore quickly got down 11-0 in the first game. After two timeouts, Moore regained his play and won eleven straight

see STREAK, 11

shut down and too scared to put up a shot within 10 feet of Wyrwich.

The dominant play continued into the second quarter with guard Kevin Schroeder starting things off by hitting 2 threes, the second one from well beyond the arc. Asked later about the team's performance, Schroeder replied, "Bling bling."

The fun didn't stop there though. The score rose to 26-6 and then 32-13 at half. With a large lead in the third quarter, the Basketbills refused to let down. After a Lindbergh steal, guard Adam Siebenman flew down the court and smacked the ball out of the Lindbergh guard's hands. His hustle was characteristic of SLUH's play all night, diving for balls and going hard every play.

After a late run by Lindbergh, the Basketbills sealed the victory with clutch free throws from Lowes and a baseball pass from southpaw Daues to fellow southpaw Anthony Benbow, who laid the ball in for the score. The final score for The WeDon'tNeedTroyLindbeckbills was 56-

44.

"We were 0-3 in this tournament last year, and, Webster being my home town, I was determined to not let that happen again," said Siebenman.

Of his first win as SLUH head coach, Ross commented, "It's fantastic. I don't have enough thank-you's." Ross was pleased with his team's performance adding, "We had a great start. The press worked well and really got our feet moving. Everything else just followed from there."

Perhaps one of the overlooked aspects of SLUH's first win was the CYC-style playing time. Every Jr. Bill basketball player saw time on the court, and nine players scored.

It was a great win for the SLUH team, and they encourage everyone to come to their game at Webster Groves on Friday night at 7:30. With a win on Friday, the Jr. Bills will play Saturday at 8:15. Also, don't miss the slam-dunk contest Saturday morning featuring Lowes.

DR. SCHENKS

(from 1)
question of leadership.”

The selection of Schenkenberg marks the end of a lengthy process. The six-person Principal Search Committee, made up of faculty and board members, was charged with the duty of finding applicants and ultimately recommending one candidate for the job. From an initial pool of applicants, the committee narrowed the field down to three candidates two weeks ago.

The three finalists visited SLUH last week for a forum with teachers and interviews with Sheridan and the committee. On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday last week, teachers gathered in the library to hear each candidate speak briefly about themselves and then answer questions from the faculty.

Breslin believes that the faculty forum with each candidate was an invaluable part of the search process. Because the committee wanted an open decision including the faculty and staff, Breslin received dozens of e-mails from both faculty and staff asking for more information about each candidate. Breslin believes the role of teachers in the process allowed everyone to be more comfortable with the decision.

Breslin says that each member of the Committee was given a specific area in which to deal with the interviews. These areas included topics such as administrative experience, co-curricular activities, and professional growth and development. The Committee used the same categories to evaluate all three candidates so that they could make accurate comparisons and contrasts.

According to the by-laws of SLUH, the Principal Search Committee only has the authority to make a recommendation to the President and the executive committee of the Board of Directors. Despite this law, Sheridan publicly stated his intent to approve whatever candidate the Search Committee endorsed. It is this “open and honest process,” as Breslin called it, that took a great deal of pressure off the committee.

Despite these conditions, the Execu-

tive Committee of the Board still had to approve the candidate. The Executive Committee is a six-person entity that functions for the Board when the Board is not in session. This committee, which consists of current Board members, happened to include four of the members of the Search Committee. With most of its members having already approved Schenkenberg’s nomination as part of the Search Committee, the approval of the Executive Committee came through very quickly.

After a day of deliberating for five hours over the weekend, the Committee notified Schenkenberg. After discussing

CREDENTIALS

*B.A. English, Fontbonne College
M.A.T. English, St. Louis University
Ph.D. English, St. Louis University
Teacher of writing and Literature at
Nerinx Hall, Webster U., and
Fontbonne College for 25 years
Principal of Nerinx Hall, 10 years*

the decision with her husband and family and another short interview with Sheridan, Schenkenberg agreed to become the 18th principal of SLUH.

The official announcement and press release came on Wednesday, and stated that, effective July 1, 2002, Schenkenberg would become principal of SLUH. Schenkenberg said that she was “delighted and honored” merely to be considered for the job. After the final decision, she “was very excited about the possibilities about being a female here in the administration. I’m really looking forward to it.”

After a year and a half of absence from education, Schenkenberg believes she is ready to return. “I had been in administration for ten years and I had taught for 25, so I just needed some time to reflect on what I wanted to do next, and I really wasn’t sure if I wanted to stay in education or not. I was really just starting

to look at options when I got a call from the Search Committee.”

In her speech to the faculty at the press conference on Wednesday, Schenkenberg praised SLUH for its commitment to prayer, service, academic excellence, and a “rich array of co-curriculars.” SLUH is a “school that is a jewel in the St. Louis area. I have been passed a treasure, and I assure you I will treat it accordingly,” Schenkenberg concluded.

Though Schenkenberg does not take over as principal until the summer, she has expressed great interest in beginning to learn more about SLUH immediately. In addition to setting up listening sessions with faculty members, Schenkenberg wants to meet with student leaders to get a feel for what she calls the culture of SLUH.

“A woman in this role will have to listen carefully, pay attention to the culture of an all-male school, and I plan to do a lot of that,” she explained.

One of the most impressive facets of Schenkenberg’s character is her progressive leadership in education. After further integrating technology into Nerinx Hall’s curriculum and adding diversified academic requirements, Schenkenberg plans to continue to drive progress at SLUH. “It’s all here,” Schenkenberg said of SLUH’s merits. “But even the best schools must move forward.” It is this drive to improve the school that made Schenkenberg stand out among the other candidates.

Though Schenkenberg is certainly an iconoclast, she now becomes part of a recent trend of precedent-setting principals. The principal before Bannister, Paul Owens, was the first layman to become principal of SLUH. Nineteen years later, Schenkenberg is setting another precedent as the first female principal of the school.

Current principal Robert Bannister believes that the hiring of a progressive candidate like Schenkenberg is a good thing. “I think it’s a good time to be

see **BASEBALL CAP**, 11

BASEBALL CAP

(from 10) thinking outside the normal box," Bannister said.

Bannister also believes that faculty will benefit from Schenkeberg's personality as well as her talent and leadership. "I think (the faculty) will appreciate her quiet calm way of handling things," Bannister said.

Bannister also expressed great faith in Schenkenberg, citing his daughters that went through Nerinx under her administration as well as his tenure on Nerinx Hall's Board of Directors with her as evidence for his approval of her selection.

Echoing Bannister, Sheridan said that he was "very confident about the committee's decision."

After so much time in an all-female environment, Schenkenberg looks forward to meeting the challenges of an all-male environment. "I think there are a lot of similarities between young women and young men in terms of the need for affirmation of identity, but I think there will be differences, and I look forward to discovering them."

Schenkenberg also said that she plans to continue her idea of empowering students to realize their full talents, something that has become a benchmark of Nerinx Hall's education. She believes that this development of confidence and talent is exceedingly important regardless of gender.

While this point seems obvious, there is a large question among students and faculty members about the wisdom of choosing a female principal. Bannister believes that "often times in a single sex school we have stereotyped the opposite sex, but when you actually work with somebody, or when students see that kind of person in that position, it makes an impact."

Teachers and students alike will feel this immediate impact. Harrison praised the decision and echoed sentiments of many faculty members, calling it a "bold step." He added, "(Students) are all going to work with women; now it's going to start here."

The faculty clapped enthusiastically for Schenkenberg when she was an-

nounced at the meeting Wednesday. "It's a good day," history and theology teacher Tom Finan confirmed.

Latin teacher Mary Lee McConaghy said that the selection of a female principal was "something I thought I'd never see." McConaghy calls the decision a fantastic move for SLUH.

Many students were surprised about the decision itself. "I'm disappointed that (math teacher Craig) Hannick didn't get (the position)," said junior Joe Gilfoil. Many students believe that Hannick's reputation with the school and knowledge of the school would have made him a good candidate.

Senior Mike Huelsing also believed that Hannick would have made the best principal. "The big thing at SLUH is tradition; we've always had a guy principal. Mr. Hannick knows the school."

Huelsing went on to say that he had no doubt of Schenkenberg's qualifications for the job; he just wondered if she was the best choice.

The student body is certainly divided on this issue. "I think with everything you have inevitable change," senior Josh Saleem explained. "For SLUH, this is a good change."

Freshman Ryan Franklin rounded out the opinions, explaining his feelings on having a female principal: "It doesn't matter to me as long as they know what they're doing. A lot of things will be different, though."

This last comment is especially indicative of the student response. Whether pro or con, almost every student believes that, in some form or another, vague or defined, the choice of a female principal will change things at SLUH. "Any time there's change, there's nervousness," Sheridan points out. "My feeling is that once people get to know her, they'll understand the wisdom of the committee's decision. I think that the experience of working with her will eradicate any of the qualms students have."

Schenkenberg summed her enthusiasm for SLUH, promising, "I want you to know that I will devote my energy and creativity to ensure that SLUH moves forward in years to come."

CHOKO-HOLD

(from 6)

him until he pinned him at 4:28. This win "solidified the victory," said O'Brien. However, another swing match followed in the heavyweight division. John Stathopulos also beat a returning state qualifier in Tony Pugh in 1:59. After the takedown, Stathopulos worked him over until he was finally able to pull Pugh's arm out from under him to have him immediately smack the mat for the pin.

"They're a very good team," said Curdt, but this was "just a great win." He continued by saying that SLUH is a more balanced team than CBC, but that CBC is probably the better tournament team since they have a few guys that can get a lot of points. SLUH will get the chance to test out their tournament abilities this Friday and Saturday at the Mehlville Tournament.

STREAK

(from 9)

points to tie the game at 11-11. His motivation moved him further in the game, resulting in a 15-13 win for Moore.

Moore commented, "In the first game, Phil (Alles) came out hitting awesome serves and great shots." He continued, "I just settled down and took it one point at a time. When I got it back to 11-7, I heard him cursing himself under his breath, and I knew I could win the match." However, Moore lost a close second game, bringing it to a tie-breaker. Knowing he had to win, Moore pulled his play up a notch and won the tie-breaker 11-4.

Gau commented on Moore's match, saying, "K-Moore took the speech to heart and came back from being down 11-0 in the first game to pull out the 'dub'." Moore's win gave the Racquetbills a 6-1 victory over the Golden Griffins, and a 4-0 record on the year.

The Jr. Bills' newly-made bandanas were another factor that helped them win their match. The bandanas, which were made by Gau, are often worn by the majority of the varsity squad. Commented Gau, "the bandanas, reminiscent of MacGyver, led us to victory over the Golden Griffins."

by: Patrick Meek

Calendar

Dec. 7-14

FRIDAY, DEC. 7

Schedule R

V-BB @ Webster Classic

C-BB (Blue) @ Chaminade @ 3:30pm

C-BB (White) @ Affton @ 4pm

V-WR @ Mehlville Tourney @ 6pm

V-HK v. CBC @ Affton @ 8pm

SATURDAY, DEC. 8

V-BB @ Webster Classic

V-WR @ Mehlville Tourney @ 1pm

RB Melville Dbls. Tourney @ Concord

SUNDAY, DEC. 9

JV-HK v. DeSmet @ Affton @ 9:15pm

MONDAY, DEC. 10

Schedule R

SAC Meeting @ 7pm

TUESDAY, DEC. 11

Schedule R

V-BB @ St. Mary's @ 6:30pm

B-BB @ St. Mary's @ 5pm

C-BB (Blue) @ St. Mary's @ 3:30pm

C-BB (White) vs Priory @ 4pm

RB-v. Vianney @ Concord @ 3:30pm

V-HK v. Parkway South @ Queeny Ice

Rink @ 8:45pm

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12

Schedule R

THURSDAY, DEC. 13

Schedule R

FRIDAY, DEC. 14

Schedule R

V-BB @ CBC @ 7pm

B-BB @ CBC @ 5:30pm

V/JV-WR @ MICDS @ 6 pm

C-WR vs Ft. Zumult South @ 4 pm

V-HK v. DeSmet @ Affton @ 8pm

EYE

(from 1)

wall, making it real hard for us to see (them)."

Clark also has plans for moving a camera to the freshman hallway to survey the door leading from Alumni Park to the switchboard, and the door in the middle corridor leading to the upper field. Clark plans to move a camera from an area in the basement already covered by one camera. However, because of the construction in the basement, access to the camera is restricted and it will not be moved until construction is complete.

Student reaction to the newly installed camera was mixed. "It feels weird being under surveillance" commented one student whose locker is almost directly underneath the new camera. However, he added, "I guess I don't really care because I'm not doing anything bad."

Another student said, "I don't like it at all. If they want to watch the doors put them on the doors." He added, "The only reason they have it here is to watch us."

"I knew that was going to come up," Clark responded, "but nobody in the course of the day watches the inside cameras. If something would happen (we) could go back and check the cameras." He explained the placement of the cameras, saying, "We want to cover the immediate area near (the lunch delivery entrance), but also as much of the area as possible." Clark responded to the big brother allegations, saying, "If we were going to monitor the students, I'd have cameras all over."

THIS WEEK IN PREP NEWS HISTORY

December 9, 1988

Volume 53, Issue 15

This week, the *Prep News* presents the now-biennial trivia contest. Before you lie thirty of the most intriguing, pedantic facts about SLUH: the teachers, the building, and the students themselves. Good luck.

Students often wonder whether they should guess if they are unsure of the answer to a question. Your score in this contest is the number of questions you answer correctly. There is no penalty for guessing; it is therefore generally to your advantage to answer every question.

Grand Prize: A laser-printed certifi-

cate suitable for framing, two doughnuts, a \$10 donation to the Christmas Food Drive in your name, extra copies of PN editions 15 and 16, and the hearty congratulations of the entire SLUH community.

Second Prize: A Xerox copy of the aforementioned certificate, one doughnut, a five dollar discount on a cruise to Vladivostok, and a sheet of "Jack in the Box" coupons.

Third Prize: A mimeographed copy of the certificate, half a doughnut, and an elevator pass.

Last Prize: The hearty laughter of the entire SLUH community.

Remembering Pearl Harbor