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Prep News

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ACES reconsiders Black History Month focus

**Paul Hoglebe
Reporter**

In past years, Black History Month served as the Association for Cultural Enrichment at SLUH's (ACES) primary medium to spread its message of diversity and specifically showcase the accomplishments of African-Americans. This school year, though, the club is trying to shift its focus.

ACES works to promote diversity around the campus. The club, running on a revamped mission statement, wants to make a more effective impact educating the SLUH community. Trying to promote a universal diversity, the group has branched out its interests to include many more cultures. Vice president Reid

Heidenry stated, "We want to have all minority voices heard," echoing the philosophy of fairness and appreciation.

Another major focus of ACES this year is educating the student body. Wanting to be a visible advocate for the ideals of diversity, the group gauges its success on how well it communicates to and affects students. The club's president, senior Scott Cunningham, stated, "We want the student body to be educated. If a controversy surfaces, we want to be an authority people can look to for a response."

This year, there will not be a black history liturgy per se. With the effectiveness of the mass in question, the club opted not to host the annual event. ACES wants diversity to be incorporated into

students' lives throughout the year, not set aside within a compartmentalized period of time.

This being said, they also realize the specific need to bring the accomplishments of minorities to light in a society that often overlooks them. At the present time, though, there will be no Black History Mass.

Similarly, while they are honoring the accomplishments of blacks this month, they will not be doing some of the activities they have done in past years, such as black profiles during homeroom. Rather, they want to fervently share their message and educate students throughout the year, in accordance to their new philosophy.

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ACSA DEBATES STDs ASSEMBLY, STAG DANCES

**Andy Neilsen
Editor in Chief**

Though the full crowd had not assembled by 7 p.m., the first round bell went off, and, after the customary prayer, two heavyweights began to duel in the third meeting of the Advisory Committee for Student Affairs.

Though members of the committee began to discuss items tangentially related to the first agenda item—the freshman assembly about sexually-transmitted diseases in January—debate for the issue itself centered around a sort of question and answer session for the

see DEBATE, 5



National organizer of the Young Democratic Socialists Erin Kaiser holds a forum about the tenets and campaigns of YDS. About 20 students attended the after-school meeting on Wednesday. Story on page 2.

Casey, '00, scores in MTV Super Bowl contest

Patrick Stephens
Reporter

If you happened to watch MTV's Total Request Live this past Saturday, you might have seen Rory Casey, '00, win two Super Bowl tickets to last Sunday's game.

On Wednesday of Super Bowl week, a woman working for MTV was scouring Casey's campus, Loyola University in New Orleans, looking for college students to participate in a contest to be held at the NFL Experience in the New Orleans Convention Center as part of the show TRL. Some of Casey's friends told the scout that he was great in front of the camera and would be good for the show.

Taking the advice of his friends, Casey showed up at the New Orleans Convention Center at 8:15 that Saturday to prepare for the contest. Whoever could get through the obstacle course—which consisted of catching a pass from San Francisco 49ers quarterback Jeff Garcia, running through tires, jumping over mounds, and running through human blockers—in the fastest time would win

Super Bowl tickets. In addition to Garcia, such celebrities as Ludacris, LL Cool J, and Terrell Davis were on hand to share in the NFL Experience.

Casey completed the course in 7.92 seconds, the fastest time of the contestants competing. Said Casey, "It was the craziest thing; that's probably as close as I'll ever get to playing in the Super Bowl." After realizing he had won, Casey ripped off the pads MTV made him wear for the contest, revealing his Jr. Billiken football shirt for all of MTV's viewers to see. A former SLUH football strong safety and left fielder for the baseball team, Casey commented, "I knew I'd be representing the Jr. Bills well." He won tickets for him and a guest to go to the big game.

Casey said going to the game was a great experience. He ended up selling his other ticket to one of his friends instead of scalping it, saying it would be cooler to go with a friend. His tickets were behind the end zone in which the Rams scored their

two fourth quarter touchdowns.

Casey said, "With U2, Mariah Carey, and Paul McCartney playing, everything was awesome, except for the Rams losing."

Not only was Casey on MTV during Super Bowl week, he also got some local airtime. His friend's brother is a producer for Channel 5, who sent morning news anchor Art Holliday to New Orleans to watch the Rams-Eagles game with Casey and his friends. After the big win, Holliday interviewed the rowdy group, which appeared on Channel 5 news later that night.

Casey commented, "Art's probably one of the nicest guys I've ever met." Roche Madden of Channel 2 also interviewed Rory on



Casey's '00 yearbook picture

campus that week, but the interview wasn't as long or personal.

Casey thanked his friends for the week: "I'm pretty lucky my friends recommended me for the contest and didn't just go themselves."

Democratic Socialists host speaker Kaiser

Andrew Ivers
Editor in Chief

Wednesday afternoon, the Democratic Socialists Club hosted Erin Kaiser, the national organizer of the Young Democratic Socialists. SLUH was one of Kaiser's first stops, and the only high school she will visit on a segment of what she called an ongoing series of forums for YDS organizations.

Kaiser spoke to about 20 students about the tenets of Democratic Socialism as well as the practical ways in which the national organization—itsself part of an international organization—can act to rectify some of the current social problems it has identified. Kaiser said the size of the crowd was what she would expect for a first chapter meeting at a college.

The founder of the Democratic Socialists is distinguished socialist and author Michael Harrington, '44.

Kaiser began by having the students list some of the characteristics, pro and con, of capitalism in America today. She then asked the students to identify places where the system falls short. Almost all agreed that capitalism falls short when it comes to accommodating basic human needs. She then asked students to draft a list of priorities for a utopian socialist society.

A few more conservative students suggested that without capitalism, there would be no motivation for humans to work and that there would be no innovation. Yet, Kaiser said, the society would not simply be centered around work. There would be time for leisure, experimentation, artistic endeavors, and innovation. One basic need for a socialist society, she said, "is basic faith in human beings."

Kaiser also spoke to the group about the events the YDS is organizing for the coming semester. Some major events in-

clude a petition to local businesses to not use Picsweet mushrooms because their growers have denied their Mexican laborers union rights; a protest in Washington on April 21 against President Bush's "Columbia: The Way Forward," formerly known as "Plan Colombia"; and participation in the Ally program, a campaign to fight discrimination against gays and lesbians.

Club co-founder Chris Storey said the club itself will most likely participate in the Ally program—in which students sign a petition to be an ally to gays and lesbians and wear buttons to show their support—but that is the only participation about which he is certain.

One important improvement for the club came late last semester with its reception of a national charter. Now, Storey says, the club has access to many active

see **MARX, 3**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Former teacher Coughlin considers reasons for SLUH's success

Dear SLUH Family,

SLUH has been on my mind lately. Four years ago last month, I left SLUH as a teacher after 7 tremendous years. Last October, I attended my 20th high school reunion at SLUH. Last fall, I watched SLUH's undefeated football team beat CBC.

A few weeks ago, my great friend, mentor, and coach, Ebbie Dunn, passed away and I found myself crying uncontrollably at his memorial service. Partly I cried because I missed Mr. Dunn a great deal, and partly I cried because I missed St. Louis U. High a great deal. SLUH was by far the predominant factor (in addition to my parents) in my formation as a person over most of the last 25 years.

When I left SLUH as a teacher, I wrote a letter to the *Prep News* stating that I believed St. Louis U. High is the finest leadership development organization in the country. However, my viewpoint was very limited. I had only worked at three organizations and didn't have much to compare with SLUH.

Today, my viewpoint is a wee bit broader. I have made over 350 presentations on leadership, teamwork, communication, strategy, and innovation in over 25 states in the U.S. to more than 70 organizations. My perspective is broader, but my belief remains the same. While I have been enormously impressed by many of these organizations and have learned a great deal from them, I still believe SLUH is the greatest leadership development organization in the country.

So the bigger question is, "What makes SLUH so extraordinarily unique?" It seems to me that there are three keys to SLUH's success:

1. *A Clear Sense Of Purpose*: If you cut through all of the different classes, clubs, and activities at SLUH, there is one defining purpose: *develop students who can truly be men for*

MARX

(from 2)

protests and campaigns which, he said, "is the kind of stuff that gets people interested." He says a membership boost may occur as a result as the second semester materializes.

"I thought (the forum) went really well," Kaiser concluded. The mixed crowd made it, "open, more interesting, more democratic." The goal of her forums, she said, is to educate but also to bring people together for discussion about democratic socialism, "for people to experience...pitting their ideas, that are very much still developing...against society. You don't do that in isolation."

"She was incredibly well-informed and a very elegant speaker," Storey said of Kaiser. "She was very charismatic. She did a good job of representing our political ideology and helping people understand it."

others! When you hear that every day at SLUH, it has the potential to seem like rhetoric. However, when you leave SLUH you realize that it is engrained in your personality and your way of thinking. Leadership is the ability to influence the way other people think and act that leads to better results in the organization's highest priority outcomes. By truly being men for others, you automatically have a great chance to be a significant, value-added leader.

2. *Appreciate People For Who They Are, Not For What They Do*: As a student at SLUH, you are recognized as an individual person. You are not your grade point average or the teams you play on or the activities that you do. You are an individual who can think critically for yourself. SLUH provides an environment where each individual can develop a variety of skills. I noticed that at my reunion. My classmates are doing a wide array of meaningful work. There are no labels. We are all SLUH grads and we are all trying to make a difference in our own way.

3. *The Relationship Between Adults And Students*: I think another critical factor is the tremendous relationship between adults (including staff, faculty, and administrators) and the students at SLUH. The enormous mutual respect between students and adults allows students to think and act more like adults than if they were talked down to or communicated to with a lack of trust.

All in all, I certainly encourage you to savor every moment that you have at SLUH. Mike Martz said to his Rams players, "What we have here is something really special, so be sure to savor every moment." I think SLUH has had something really special going for many, many years, and I think we should all savor every moment of our SLUH experience.

Dan Coughlin, '81

This Week in Prep News History

Volume 49, Issue 21—February 8, 1985

"The (Advisory Committee) meeting opened with debate over the acceptability of questionable hairstyles recently flourishing at SLUH. Mohawks, shaved heads, and variations on new wave cuts have aroused a great deal of discussion...

Talk next shifted to the issue of smoking at SLUH, particularly with regard to the jr./sr. smoker in the rec room."

Volume 43, Issue 21—February 9, 1979

"Because of the loss of nearly 800 library books, next week has been declared 'Library Awareness Week.'

One of the objects is to encourage students who have—or know of brothers, cousins, etc., who have—any of the books to return them. There will be a general amnesty—no questions or hassle—for all who return the books, many of which are classics, but out of print and irreplaceable."

Adams School book drive to begin next week

NHS/Eicholz project will commence following poll results

Brian Fallon
Reporter

This Wednesday, the National Honor Society started a poll on students' favorite childhood books. The purpose of the poll is to publicize next week's book drive for Adams Elementary School.

Adams School is a new elementary school on Tower Grove Boulevard, southeast of SLUH. CSP volunteers tutor students at Adams every Tuesday after school, led by Alumni Service Corps volunteer Derek Eicholz.

The main focus of the drive, however, is to provide books for grades K-4 since the students have free reading time during which students are required to read a certain amount of books. "The prob-

lem," explains Eicholz, "is that there aren't enough books. That's where SLUH comes in."

The book drive will commence Feb. 11 and will end Feb. 22. Each homeroom will compete to collect the most books, and the winning homeroom of each class will win Krispy Kreme doughnuts. Fliers for the book drive will be posted around school today, and the results of Wednesday's homeroom poll will be shown in next week's issue of the *Prep News*. After the book drive ends, CSP students who

volunteer at Adams will deliver the books to the school on the 26th.

Nerinx Hall High School held a similar book drive earlier this year, bringing in books for the elementary students. Even though the book drive was a success, there is still a need for more books.

Beth Kissel, co-moderator of the National Honor Society, is in charge of the book drive. "Part of the philosophy of NHS is service, and this is one of the ways members can get everyone involved in service," Kissel said.



Speech team clears throats

Alex Green
Reporter

Last Sunday, the Speech team competed in the third Christian Inter-Scholastic Speech League (CISL) meet of the 2001-2002 school year, held at Ursuline Academy in Webster Groves. The team faced hundreds of students from 16 different schools across the metropolitan area.

While having a speech meet on Super Bowl Sunday did not help concentration, many students at the meet had their Rams gear on. CISL President Patti Deake even showed off her blue and gold fingernails while judging.

After two rounds of speeches and nervous nail-biting, CISL representative Laura Bolt happily arrived to hand out the ribbons. The SLUH team came out strong, with 13 out of 14 team members earning ribbons. Blue ribbons were awarded to Brian Wacker (Humorous/Serious Interpretation), Chris Storey & Alex Green (Duet), Justin Smith & Jake Boesch (Duet), Brandon Bieber (Poetry), J.R. Strzelec (Prose), Peter Gosik (Storytelling), and J.R. Strzelec (Radio Broadcasting).

Red ribbons were awarded to Joey Neilsen (Humorous/Serious Interpretation), Dan Lieser (Original Oratory), Joe Thomas (Prose), Brian Cunningham (Storytelling), and Dan McDougal (Extemporaneous Speaking).

The team performed very well at this meet and hopes to outscore rival DeSmet Jesuit. SLUH won first place in the Speech League during the 2000-2001 season, but is currently behind DeSmet.

Commenting on the success of his and his partner's speech, team Vice President Chris Storey said, "It's amazing to me how much we can screw up and still get first place." At the same time, team President Justin Smith said, "We are all looking forward to finals, in which I predict we will dominate."

The Speech team is led by theater teacher Kathryn Whitaker, who believes that the team members "have their work cut out for them in preparation for finals."

The next CISL meet is the finals competition, in which the top seven students from each category compete for the speech championship. Prizes are awarded to the top three schools.

The Speech team finals will take place March 3 at St. Elizabeth's Academy.

ACES

(from 1)

The club has been discussing whether to have instead a general diversity mass, in conjunction with its new club philosophy, but this proposition is also speculative. ACES moderator Spencer McCall commented, "As of right now, the diversity mass is unscheduled."

While there is no Mass as of now, the most visible sign of ACES activity at SLUH, the club has been working consistently to make good the promises of its mission statement. Establishing its identity as a truly multicultural organization, the club runs the themed culture-of-the-month table in the middle hallway. They invited the Muslim guest speaker Dr. Rana last fall, participated in SLUH's first student exchange with a public school, and plan to invite a Jewish rabbi later in the year. Their final event will be a 'town meeting' discussion session, open to the entire SLUH community. Students will tackle difficult questions concerning racial and cultural issues and discuss how to respond to these issues.

Poignantly summing up what ACES is trying to do this year, Cunningham concluded, "We don't want to be visible only during February."

Area high schools closed after Super Bowl

Brian Kane
Core Staff

Several schools were out of session on Monday. However, not all of the empty desks were due to the Super Bowl.

Vianney students were given the day off, and it was because of the Super Bowl. The issue was discussed by the faculty, and they opted to close. According to Principal Larry Keller, the school wanted the students to "have the opportunity to go to (the victory) parade." However, since no one would know if there would be a parade or not until late that Sunday night, the school gave the Rams the benefit of the doubt. Keller also said that since the school had some snow days which had not been used, taking the day off would probably not require a make-up day later in the year.

CBC was another school not in session on Monday. Their day off was not solely because of the Super Bowl, though. The previous week had been Spirit Week at CBC. That included a charity drive for children with cancer. CBC's principal James Gerdes said that the school had set a goal of \$3000 for the drive, and it surpassed the goal by earning \$6200. Super Bowl Monday was the reward day for the students.

The decision for Cor Jesu students to be out of school on Monday had no connection to the Super Bowl. According to Cor Jesu students, the date had been set aside since the beginning of the school year as their day off for the school's auction. At the time the decision was made, the Super Bowl was planned for Jan. 27. However, when the National Football League put the season on hold due to Sept. 11, the Super Bowl just happened to be changed to the day before Cor Jesu's day off.

Obviously, St. Louis U. High was in session on Monday. Principal Robert Bannister said that the issue was discussed, but the decision to stay in school prevailed for several reasons. First, if the school took the day off, it would have to have been made up at some other point in

the year. Since the possible need for a snow day is still around, the allotted days might still be useful. Also, he said that since the game would be over around nine o'clock, coming to school the next day wouldn't be a problem. An early dismissal was considered for students who would be planning on going to the then-assumed victory parade, but Bannister said that after talking it over with people, he decided that the earlier dismissal would not be of much value.

The decision was not popular to most

SLUH students. Said sophomore Dylan Kwapy, "I needed a day to recuperate."

However, the decision was not despised by everyone. Senior Reid Heidenry said, "I didn't want to stay at home and think about the Rams game all day."

Bannister reminded that the school could have its extra day off later in the year, provided that enough Cashbah raffle tickets are sold. But since Cashbah is later in the year, the day could not have been used yet.

DEBATE

(from 1)

assembly's organizer, biology teacher Tim O'Keefe. "We wanted to make (freshmen) aware of some things... It was something they needed to know," O'Keefe said of the assembly.

The assembly itself catalogued various STDs, showing graphic pictures with an explanation of the symptoms. All the while, the presenter stressed the importance of abstinence to students. Though the moral message was good, parents were concerned that the presentation was too graphic for freshmen, as several did have to leave the assembly because of the content. "I wasn't aware that it would affect some kids the way it did," O'Keefe explained.

Shelia O'Toole and other parents praised the assembly. "Our schools are in the business of education; we want the right information," she said.

Other parents weighed in their trust of SLUH. "As a school, we're educating the total person," said Gerald Carlson. "I think we all trust SLUH to do that."

Barb Costigan agreed, saying, "There has to be a bigger picture. There has to be a correlation. Facts on a page are frightening, but they need to know what to do and what not to do. You have to go somewhere from (the facts)."

Science teacher Paul Baudendistel submitted an open question to the committee regarding the abstinence message: "How can teachers keep this message fresh and accessible?" A very important issue that others had been hinting at, this

topic elicited many student responses.

Though some disagreed, most students felt that the Wellness Club periodical *From the Well* was not reaching many students. "I think we should get the whole story," explained junior Tom Queathem, "not just the facts."

Junior Dan Riley and Queathem suggested presenting the STDs assembly to each class every year, but continue to change the speaker. One year, have a young person give the talk, another year perhaps a priest, exposing students to all the facets of such a complex issue.

Just like a heavyweight fight, the debate began to gear up just as the first round was coming to a close, and the committee moved on to the second agenda topic: stag dances.

At the beginning of the debate, ACSA moderator Eric Clark confessed that he hadn't really thought about this issue, though it had recently come to his attention. Referring to the idea of a mandatory date for the dance, Clark shrugged. "It was just done that way. I just never thought of it."

Right away, students voiced their support for the right to go stag (without a date) to school formal dances. The real debate centered around whether students would be allowed to bring friends from other schools or a male date to the dance.

Most students and teachers rejected the idea of having non-SLUH males at dances. "We don't want (the dance) to become a mixer situation," reasoned

see ACSA, 8

Cagerbills win two, lose battle at DeSmet

Basketbills prepare for MCC opponent Chaminade

Reid Heidenry
Reporter

Having won their last three games, the Basketbills walked into D-World, home of the huge maroon pipe, with high expectations. In the first matchup with head coach John Ross' alma mater, DeSmet had dominated the game and won 77-50. But the SLUH team is a different team now and hot as of late. "We're a lot more confident and a better offensive team," said captain Kris Lowes. "We're also rebounding much better and not giving teams two or three chances to score."

Coming off his 24-point performance against Oakville, Lowes scorched the net for 6 of SLUH's first 11 points. DeSmet jumped ahead, though, and had a 24-12 lead early in the game. During one DeSmet

possession, an unexpected crisis took control of the game. A DeSmet shot got stuck between the backboard and the rim. With no one able to jump high enough to get the ball down, it seemed that the game might be delayed for several hours until a broom or another similiar device could be found.

Out of nowhere came Andy Wahl, SLUH's three-point and ball-handling guru. Wahl soared in the air, knocking the ball out of its wedge and ending the delay. "I was trying to help out, and I just happened to show off my mad hops in the process," he said. Both the ball and Wahl were fine.

With the game back on track, SLUH tried to make a comeback. They did this through seniors Kevin Schroeder and Sean Reidy. Both sparked the SLUH offense in the second half, igniting the unit and put-

ting digits on the board. Down 35-19, in desperate need of some cotton, Schroeder pulled out the money ball, a three with the foul. Schroeder, who finished with 13 points, all in the second half, pulled up from no man's land just minutes later in the quarter. Schroeder was feeling it and he knew his shot was cash. He said, "I was like, you can't faze 'dis, what!"

With Wyrwich double-teamed in the paint and Schroeder leatherin' the lace out deep, Sean Reidy took his offensive onslaught hard to the basket. Reidy was relentless in his pursuit of the cylinder, dropping his fat "J" from everywhere. "Since Schroeder was doing his thugthisle from outside, I tried to play big in the paint," said Reidy.

Complementing SLUH's offensive tenacity was the U. High defense, led by Adam Siebenman's intensity. Cutting D-World's lead to single digits, the NuttinbutnetBills fought their way back into the game. But SLUH's fate came down to DeSmet free throws, and DeSmet doesn't miss. With the final score not telling the true story, DeSmet won a hard-fought game 61-45.

After losing to one of the best teams in St. Louis, at their place, the Basketbills were looking to get back to .500 and get their fourth win in the last five games. Mehlville would not be an easy task, however. Mehlville went up early, scoring the first 5 points. The Jr. Bills then turned up their game, going on a 12-0 run, sparked by a huge Matt Wyrwich block. Lowes continued to pour in more points from the paint. Snagging an offensive rebound, Lowes dropped a layup as he got fouled.

Up 17-11 at the end of the first quarter, the basketbills were in control. Lowes continued his ridiculousness, crossing-over a Mehlville player en route to the basket for two of his 21 points. Daues followed in Lowes' footsteps, scoring 6 in the first half, 11 for the game. "I'll follow my chief anywhere," said Daues. With Lowes and Daues dominating on offense,

see LAYUP, 8

Icers cap season with playoff bye

Brian Wacker
Reporter

The Jr. Bill varsity hockey team wrapped up its regular season last weekend with two solid wins at Affton Rink. With those wins, they finished with a regular season record of 11-7-2, earning them a first round bye in the playoffs.

Last Friday, the CavaliniBills met a tough Lutheran South squad. The team went down early on a Lutheran South shot that baffled sophomore goalie Charlie Effinger. The teams went back and forth over the first two periods, but no other goals were scored.

"It's tough to go down early like that," commented senior Brian Connelly, "but we didn't lose our cool."

That coolness proved very useful in the third period. SLUH outscored Lutheran South 4-2 in one of the goal-filled periods of the year, making the final score 4-3.

"It's like the giants were awakened from their slumber," said senior Dennis Burke, fishing for an analogy. Senior John Greffet and freshman Mike Tangaro were

among the scorers for the MikeLiutBills, who notched another W going into the season finale on Saturday.

SLUH went into Saturday's game against Althoff with a lot on the line. Not only did they need a win for playoff positioning, but they also wanted avenge a near embarrassing loss at the hands of Althoff earlier in the year. "We came into this game pumped, knowing that it was more than just another game," commented Bobby Lachky.

With Effinger and Junior Andy Wolterman splitting the goaltending duties, the CourtnallBills took the lead early. Greffet and Lachky both contributed goals on the offensive side to give the SLUH a comfortable. The defense played strong, limiting Althoff's offense to few opportunites and two goals. When the final score was tallied, SLUH won 5-2.

More importantly, with the two wins, SLUH earned a first round bye with the #7 seed in the playoffs. They will play the winner of #10 Vianney and #23 McCluer North next week. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Grapplers claim second in District tournament

Team prepares for sectionals tomorrow

Mike Smallwood
Reporter

Coming off a good week of practice, head coach Tim Curdt knew the Wrestlingbills were ready for districts; the only question that remained was whether they would wrestle to their fullest abilities. Last Saturday at DeSmet, against seven other district rivals, that question was answered.

With an open in the 171-pound class, the wrestling team sent thirteen of its members into battle at districts, and eleven of them emerged as sectional qualifiers.

Sophomore Mike Smith (135) had some of his best matches of the season at the district meet. He lost his first match to a tough opponent from CBC but came roaring back in the next rounds. In his second match, he immediately took his opponent down to his back and pinned him in a mere sixteen seconds. He followed that up with another pin in only 1:26 to qualify for sectionals. He lost his final match, however, and finished as the fourth seed from SLUH's district.

The four third-place finishers also had their highlights. Nick Born (125) lost to a CBC Cadet in the first round but came back to beat him in the finals. Pete Mahoney continued his consistent winning ways with a third-place finish, which included a 13-4 major decision in the first round and a 2:54 pin in the third round. Also placing third was Justin Clerc (140). Coming off an arm injury, Clerc had only been practicing the last two weeks. After a second-round loss, he was back into things by the third, where he leveled his opponent into a 1:02 pin and then finished the tournament with a pin in the third period of his next match at 5:05.

John Orbe (189) also had a great tournament, especially considering he is wrestling with an injured shoulder. He had to fight hard to get his third place finish in districts. In the second round, he faced an opponent from DeSmet that he had battled rigorously several times in the previous weeks only to suffer close losses.

Orbe made a near comeback in the exciting third period when he reversed his opponent and then picked up more near fall points to take the lead by one, but he was a little high on his positioning and unfortunately got turned, losing 17-13. Orbe had no reason to despair, however, as he picked up a 3:53 pin and a third-place finish.

SLUH also had two second-place finishers. Chris Wagnitz (145) dominated his first two opponents, pinning one in only 1:37 and beating another 12-1. With several opens in the heavyweight class, John Stathopulos (275) had an opportunity to grab a good seed. In his second-round match, he pinned his Gateway opponent in 1:10. The finals were set between Stathopulos and his nemesis from CBC, Tony Pugh, whom Stathopulos defeated, earning Stathopulos the second

seed at the semifinals.

Along with the record eleven sectional qualifiers, four of them were district champions, another record for SLUH wrestling. Rob Nahlik (112) had a breeze getting to the finals with a first-round bye and a :28 pin in the second round. However, his finals match faced him against Don Schunk from CBC, to whom he had just lost to in the previous week. Nahlik got off to a slow start, getting taken down several times before escaping. Nahlik attempted to get things back on track as he got a reversal near the end of the first period. Nahlik was down 6-4 going into the third period but came right out to get a takedown. He ceased this chance and worked for the pin which came at 5:07. SLUH got another district champ in Boyd Gonnerman (119), who has wrestled con
see RIPCORN, 8

Swimmers spear second in MCCs

Michael Petersen
Reporter

SLUH swimming took its 12-2 record into the MCC finals last Friday, hoping to capture a first place finish before heading into the State Meet today. The Aquabills would settle for second place, just a few points behind MCC champ DeSmet. Previously, DeSmet beat SLUH in a dual meet by only one point. The JV team also captured second place, as Chaminade's JV team took first place.

SLUH's winners at the MCC showdown were the 200 Medley Relay team and senior Greg Szewczyk in the 100 Back. Pool-side commentator Paul Baudendistel noted, "Greg has no business swimming with these people that are, like, twice his size. His speed to mass ratio is simply off the charts." Several second place finishes, as well as an 11th place finish in diving by sophomore Colin Tyrrell, helped the Flipturnbills finish second in the MCC meet.

Senior freestyler Jason Jacobi noted the lyrics of an old Oasis song when

describing the team speed off the starting blocks as "faster than a cannonball."

Szewczyk is one of SLUH's 13 swimmers attending the state meet, qualifying for the 100 Free and 100 Back events. Nine of those 13 are underclassmen, and several qualified in multiple events. Junior Carl Thompson qualified in the 200 Individual Medley and the 500 Free. The 500 Freestyle is an amazing length of about 1/3 of a mile, requiring competitors to swim 20 laps and to complete 19 flipturns. Thompson swims this in about five minutes. Fellow junior Tom Heafner qualified in the 100 Fly and 100 Breast. Sophomore stunner Kurt Doll will swim the 200 Free and 100 Free at state, while freshman Tim Heafner will race in the 50 Free and 100 Back.

To prepare for the state meet today, the team will head to IHOP early before departing to the St. Peter's Rec-Plex. The meet starts today at 3:00 p.m. and will last until approximately 8:00 p.m. The events continue all day Saturday, with diving in the morning and swimming in the afternoon.

ACSA

(from 1)
 moderator Brock Kesterson. "Having males from other schools defeats the purpose of a SLUH dance."

Junior Clark Taylor vehemently disagreed, responding with exasperation in his plea to let non-SLUH males go to dances. "Why is this made out to be such a big topic when it shouldn't be a topic at all?" he asked.

Students and parents agreed, despite Taylor's objections, that dances were a good opportunity for students to socialize together without having to worry about outside rivalries or anything. "(Dances) are part of the SLUH experience," asserted T.J. Siebenman.

Parents also expressed concern that a no-date policy would lead to many students coming without dates, or just being with their male friends and creating disturbances. Clark said he would not let this happen. "Am I going to open the floodgates? Of course not," Clark assured parents.

Homosexuality came up, with arguments becoming more heated as the 8:30 deadline drew closer. Queathem argued

that dances provide an opportunity to socialize that some students don't get. Queathem believed that if a student were to take another male, he would make himself a target of ridicule. He and junior Bobby Mattaline debated back and forth about a mentality of targetting certain attendees of the dances. Sophomore Dan Lieser countered that argument, saying that those who would choose to take another male date would "know the disturbance they were creating."

Director of diversity Chuck McCall spoke passionately against the target mentality. "I would hope that you would stick up for (a targeted person)," McCall said to the students. McCall responded to arguments over different types of targets, i.e. interracial couples, homosexual couples, and physically disabled couples, saying, "A prejudice is a prejudice regardless of how you feel about it; you are being taught to be a man for others."

Once again debate ended with few conclusions, only that Clark would change his policy to make it possible for students to attend dances without dates. "We have to try this," Clark concluded.

RIPCORD

(from 7)
 sistically all year but took things up a level for district competition. He also defeated a CBC wrestler that he had recently lost to in a close 4-3 match in the first round, then took down another rival from DeSmet in the second round 6-3. Gonnerman continued his dominance into the finals and was wrestling well until his opponent defaulted due to apparent injury.

Joe Bommarito (152), a district champion last year as well, refused to accept anything less this year. His second-round match slated him against another Cadet who proved to be no match for the explosive Bommarito, who pinned him in 1:22. Bommarito had to take on a formidable opponent from DeSmet in the finals but



An opponent dives at a SLUH wrestler.

wrestled well all around—getting takedowns, reversals, and nearfalls—to win 13-5.

Colin O'Brien also came to districts focused on a championship and refused to let himself down. He won his second-round match 9-2 and was poised for a tough match in the finals. However, O'Brien ferociously attacked his opponent and earned a pin at 2:48.

With all of these great individual performances, SLUH was able to place second in Districts behind CBC; it is the wrestling team's first state plaque in over 30 years. Curdt commented that it was great to see the team have "so much more poise against opponents in every match." The team looks to take this poise and focus to Sectionals this Saturday at Hazelwood Central.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next issue of *The SLUH Forum* will be published next Wednesday, February 13. It will include a section of international news briefs; Ben McCloskey's article about the prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, their treatment, and the situation's relationship with the Geneva Accords; Chris Storey's response to "The Case for Capitalism"; Peter Barron's response to "Stem Cell Research: The Catholic Church's Next Battle with Science," and a counter response from Jason Weaver, who wrote "Stem Cell Research."

Travel raffle tickets have gone home with the student body. Ticket sales have been slow. If each student sells only four tickets, each grade will be awarded a day off from school. *Only four tickets!* (Reminders: All money generated by Cashbah benefits the school.) All unsold tickets must be returned to the homeroom reps. Those selling additional tickets increase their chances at winning great incentives.

The Dauphin Players' upcoming musical, *Celebration*, will premier in homeroom this morning. The video is also available on the Web at www.sluh.org.

Completed application for the SLUH chapter of the National Honor Society are due February 15. See Mrs. Elliot or Mrs. Kissel in the math office to receive an application.

Be sure not to miss Rec Bowl V on Monday, February 18. It promises to be an evening of competition, entertainment, and fun for fathers and sons. Sign in is at 6:30 in the Danis Lobby.

A family mass will be held on Sunday February 17. A rosary recitation will be held after the mass from 9:05-9:20.

Quote o' the Week

Dr. Finan: "Hey, Bayer, what are you doing back there?"

Alex Bayer: "Smashing things."

—inquiry in Finan's theology class

SENIOR PROJECT

Honduras project brings revelation of love

Nick Brescia
Reporter

"All you need is love, love, love is all you need" - John Lennon

It is rare that a high school senior is given the opportunity to spend a month of the school year in a foreign country with five of his classmates and one terrific teacher to learn more about himself, others, and God. I knew the Honduras senior project was how I wanted to fulfill my service requirement the minute picking a project was discussed junior year. Now, having been over a thousand miles from home and back, not an hour goes by when I am not reminded of my experience at the nutrition center in Yoro with Dilma (Mini), Lucia (Mini Dos), Julia, Carlos, Oscar, Fatima, E-sai-E (East Side), Maria Ramona, Johnny, Nelson, Maricela, Marivel, Rosi, Sonya, Sandra, Jorge Alberto, Blanca, Nancy, and Brian.

The center is meant to be a temporary refuge where parents without the means or ability to properly feed or take care of their child can, with a doctor's referral, leave their son or daughter so he or she can get well. Sadly, some kids stay for as long as two years or, worse, are never able to go home, and are given up for adoption. The kids' ages range from one and a half to eight years old. The building where the center is now stationed was built almost two years ago and funded primarily by the donations and fund-raising efforts of the SLUH community. Mr. Charlie Merriott has been involved in the project from its beginning eight years ago and has organized and coordinated an amazing improvement in the overall conditions at the center.

Despite stories and warnings from my cousin and a good friend who had gone to Honduras on their own senior projects, I had no idea what to expect going down there myself. I was a bit skeptical about living with a foreign family, eating their food, and having to communicate in a different language for an entire month. Appropriately, upon my arrival, I found myself in the awkward situation of greeting my host family of strangers with as much openness and joy as I could muster. The disparity of cultures between my home and theirs was evident as I walked into the house with Spanish pop blaring in my ear and saw a short, smiling woman molding tortillas on a cutting board. I realized rather quickly that a serious adjustment was necessary for me to survive the next three and a half weeks in this new environment.

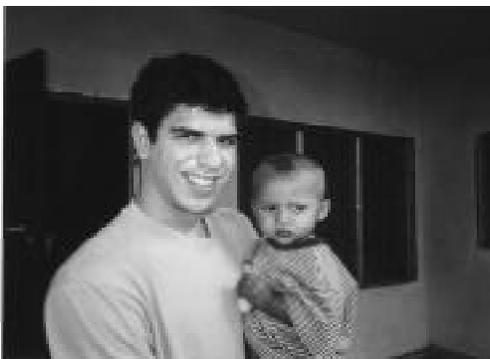
My first trip to the center was one of shock and hesitation. Walking into the big room at the center, I saw the kids lined up along the walls, sitting on the bare tile floor staring blankly around the room. It was like watching one of those "Save the Children" infomercials, except that the children who needed to be

saved were an arm's length away. I didn't know what to do for the first five minutes other than just look at the kids and wonder how they got to the center, or why they did not swat at the flies crawling on their faces. It was one of the most disheartening feelings I have ever had. Slowly, I began to climb out of my trance and take a heartfelt interest in the little faces staring back at me. I picked one of the little ones up and sat down in a chair wondering what to do next. Over the next few days and the following weeks, I became more comfortable with the kids and they became more comfortable with me, allowing for more openness and interaction between us, such as playing soccer and tickling rather than just sitting in a chair lazily.

It was actually in the first week I was there that my/our mission for the project became clear to me. While listening to music at the center, the Beatles' song "All You Need is Love" rang out and a sudden sense of clarity hit me like when I finally understand a calculus theorem. My mission in Honduras was to love the nineteen kids at the center just as God has loved me throughout my life. I recognized that everything I have has been given to me by God. These children were not given a warm, comforting brick house to call home or two loving, responsible parents with the sufficient resources to raise a healthy and educated child. Why was I given these gifts and they were not? There is no justice in their misfortune and my auspicious beginning.

My response to this dilemma was to show the kids, for the month I was with them, the same love and care I had been shown my entire childhood. I experienced no greater feeling of joy the entire trip than when I made a baby smile or a toddler laugh by giving him or her the attention each so desperately sought and coveted. The culmination of my efforts was expressed by Nancy on the last night we were at the center. She was old enough to understand that we were not coming back the next day and so she gave me a big hug and kiss as I was saying my final goodbyes to all the kids. The energy and happiness radiating from her ear to ear smile made it that much harder to leave.

Since returning from the project, I have been thinking about the experiences I had, looking at pictures and starting to really miss the kids at the center. I have begun to wonder what kind of care they are receiving, who is there to hold and play with them and whether or not they are getting the food and medicine they need. It really frustrates me when I can say with some certainty that the answers to those questions are not what I wish they were. I can only hope that our entire group left the kids in Honduras with enough love to stay in their hearts forever. I know I received that much from them.



Brescia on project in Honduras with E-sai-E, one of the children under his care.

Calendar

by Dan Butler

FRIDAY, FEB. 8

Schedule R
 V-SW @ State Meet @ Rec Plex
 V-BB @ Chaminade @ 7:00pm
 B-BB @ Chaminade @ 5:30pm

SATURDAY, FEB. 9

Wrestling Sectionals @ Hazelwood Central
 V-SW @ State Meet @ Rec Plex
 ACT Exam

MONDAY, FEB. 11

Schedule R

V-BB vs. Vianney @ 6:30pm
 B-BB vs. Vianney @ 5:00pm
 Father/Son Rec Bowl

TUESDAY, FEB. 12

Schedule L
 Mothers' Club Faculty Breakfast
 National Math Contest

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13

Schedule M
 All School Mass—Ash Wednesday Liturgy

THURSDAY, FEB. 14

Schedule R
 Dauphin Players *Celebration* @ 7:30pm
 University of Kansas @ 12:52-1:22 Sign up in counseling office
 Wrestling State Championships @ Hearnes Center

FRIDAY, FEB. 15

Schedule L
 Dauphin Players *Celebration* @ 7:30pm
 V-BB vs. Cape Girardeau Cent. @ 7:00pm
 B-BB vs. Cape Girardeau Cent. @ 5:30pm
 Wrestling State Championships @ Hearnes Center

HAIR WEIGHT CONTEST

Due to violations of student dress code, student hygiene code, and government fire code, the editor in chief of the *Prep News*, Andy Neilsen, removed the majority of his hair on Friday, Feb. 1. After attempts by Neilsen that included (but are certainly not limited to) gluing the hair back on with his concoction of wood glue, moist Chex cereal, and glitter; stapling the hair back on; and wearing an old-time powdered wig (pretending nothing happened) were met with mockery, Neilsen agreed to offer up his hair to a good old-fashioned hair weight guessing contest; guess the length of the hair before it was cut for a tie-breaker.

Entries can either be submitted on this swanky cut-out form or submitted on

any scrap piece of paper to the *Prep News* box in the center hallway. Please submit your guess in grams.

Prizes will be given for first, second, third, and last place guesses:

First Place: a Spanish Ramones poster, one unclaimed clothing item from the *Prep News* office, an unusually large and exceptionally beautiful leaf, and a gift certificate to Vintage Vinyl (usable for the Monster Ballads collection)

Second Place: A classic baseball hat

Third Place: a matching head band and wrist band set (for holding back unusually large hair)

Last Place: Neilsen's actual hair stored in a bag and delivered to you in homeroom



Andy, prior to massive hair removal



Andy, post-removal

Name/Homeroom: _____

Guess: _____ g (to the nearest hundredth) Length: _____ cm (before cut)

SENIOR SKIP DAY BY THE NUMBERS

Seniors absent from homeroom: 75
 Seniors absent by the end of the day: 57

Number of different excuses: 6
 Number of "totally disgusted" Deans of Students: 1

LAYUP

(from 6)

Matt Wyrwich kept Mehlville out of the paint on D. The Collosus of Clout put fear into the eyes of every Mehlville player, leaving his hand imprinted on every shot within three feet of him.

With SLUH leading 60-41, Anthony Benbow went to the free throw line after an intentional foul from Mehlville. Benbow dropped it like it was hot, burning a hole in the net with his clutch free throw. The Basketbills won 61-46.

Don't miss the next MCC match-up tonight, 7p.m., when the U. High takes on Chaminade, their place.

PN Correction

The name of the town of the Chinese exchange student is Nanjing, not Nanzing.

Instead of three seniors hosting the Chinese students, it is actually two seniors, one junior and one freshman.