

Inside this week's Prep News...

News: An overview of Bannister's seven-year principalship, page 2

Sports: Volleybills lose heartbreaker to Vianney in state semifinals, page 13

Opinion: The passengers change. Don't they change anything? Commentary by Kevin Moore, page 3

Prep News

VOLUME LXVI

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

ISSUE 31

June workshop to address student wellness

Topics include counseling department, homosexuality

Geoff Brusca
Core Staff

Between new counseling department programs and speeches to parents, student wellness has suddenly become an immediate and pressing concern. The emergence of such initiatives as the Ally campaign has highlighted, through the need for more help for gay students, the necessity of revamping SLUH's approach to wellness.

But once the school year is underway, it is difficult to introduce new programs and policies to deal immediately with the serious problems that have surfaced. The Administration and the coun-

seling department have planned a meeting at the beginning of June to discuss, address, and invent a new student wellness agenda for the future.

Participants will include members of all departments and disciplines and will work through a variety of wellness issues. The focus for the first day will be the generation of student wellness problems and concerns which should lead to discussion. Participants will have exploratory conversations to figure out the biggest shortcomings of the current counseling structure. Day two will be for determining what has and has not worked for SLUH so far. Participants will also begin to figure out ways to solve the problems and to

address the new ones that have recently come up.

"Right now, there is no structural goal (for the meeting)," said Sheridan. "The idea is to set goals at the meeting."

The administration is currently investigating plans and research which have been put forth by fellow Jesuit high schools Marquette U. High and Creighton Prep. Creighton has done research on the adolescent male that SLUH is examining and trying to adapt to their findings. Marquette effectively uses support groups to help students with extra-curricular concerns, and the counseling department is very interested in borrowing from that.

see **SUMMER SCHOOL, 10**

Hannick to head admissions

Matt Hoffman
Core Staff

Math teacher Craig Hannick will be the new Director of Admissions for the school year of 2002-2003.

When Robert Bannister began his career as principal of SLUH, the idea of hiring a Director of Admissions was already on the table. Mary Michalski, who had admissions experience at Saint Louis University, was hired. However, Michalski



Hannick teaches Algebra to juniors on Monday.

moved to the counseling department and her husband, Mark Michalski, was hired

to take over as the Director of Admissions. Because of his experience with the MacSchool computer program, Michalski was asked to take over as Director of Scheduling when Assistant Principal Art Zinselmeyer began working less than full

time, leaving the Director of Admissions position open. Bannister, Michalski, and switchboard operator Kim Gau, among other faculty members, cooperated to get through the admissions process for this school year.

However, without a Director of Admissions, the see **ADMISSIONS, 10**

FOREST PARK BASEBALL FIELD NEARS COMPLETION

Patrick Stephens
Reporter

Considering that the SLUH varsity baseball team had eight games rained out this year, it comes as a relief that next year the team will be getting a state-of-the-art baseball field with a new drainage system. It is one of eight new fields under construction on Aviation Field in Forest Park.

SLUH's new baseball field will be ready for play by February of 2003, according to Ted Hellman, chairman of Forest Park Forever. The field will actually physically be ready by the beginning of

see **MUD FIELD, 11**

Bannister leaves SLUH after seven years

Denis Agniel
Core Staff

After seven years of bustling around the halls of St. Louis U. High, Robert Bannister will step down as principal on July 1, 2002. During his time at the helm, the school has pushed forward in many areas, including technology, academics, admission, facilities, and faculty development.

According to Bannister, SLUH's technology during the 1960s included a mainframe, a rarity for a high school at that time. Upon his arrival on July 1, 1995, the administration set out to re-establish the school as a leader in technology. They also determined that educating the staff in the use of technology would be a priority.

As a result of this commitment to technology, the school has installed a T1 line and every teacher now has access to a personal computer as well as a technology workroom, whereas at the beginning of Bannister's career at SLUH, every office had a computer but not every fac-

ulty member did.

In 1995, about 70 computers sat in two computer labs on the lower level. Now Bannister estimates that students have twice as many computers to access, with a lab in the library and a second floor writing lab in M204 supplementing the original two.

Not only has the technology changed quantitatively, but the quality has improved as well. Every teacher has the ability to move the new technology into the classroom, said Bannister, citing the science and math departments' wireless systems.

On top of technological advancements, academics and admissions procedures have dynamically changed during Bannister's seven years. Bannister says the schedule is undergoing "an evolutionary process" that is "looking for more flexibility in junior and senior year." To establish this flexibility, the administra-

tion added a seventh period to the school day.

In terms of curriculum, a full year of biology in freshman year now offers students more leverage and encourages more students to continue science in their upperclass years. Theology has moved from three days a week to five days, allotting it greater parity with the other subjects. Freshman history changed from five days a week for one semester to three days a week all year long. The language lab was re-instituted during Bannister's tenure. Finally, Health has been added as a freshman course.

Dr. Bannister has worked closely with the department chairs to improve curriculum," said math department Chair Tom Becvar.

Bannister has also lowered class size, see **TICKET TO RIDE, 6**



The smiling Bannister has 30 years of administrative experience under his belt.

Walsh succeeds Zarrick as CSP moderator

Andy Neilsen
Editor in Chief

In a move that will appoint the third Community Service Program moderator in four years, theology and economics teacher and Australia native Suzanne Walsh was appointed CSP moderator.

"(Principal Robert Bannister) asked me if I'd be interested in (CSP). I said, 'Yeah, I'd love to,'" Walsh recalled.

Walsh's experience in community service comes primarily from her days at Riverview High School in Australia, where, as a housemaster, she served on the school's organizing committee for community service. Unlike at SLUH, the students at Riverview were required to do at least fifteen hours of service every year. However, like SLUH, Walsh said, "They did everything from (working with) senior (citizens) to kids."

Walsh's favorite project from

Riverview was the Ignatian Holiday Camp. Designed as a fun, week-long activity for disabled children, the camp also provides a respite for their parents. It brought seniors and juniors from Riverview into an immersive experience with disabled kids.

"I loved it," Walsh recalled of the camp. "It was such a rewarding experience. You go into it thinking you're helping someone, but what you get out of it, the feeling and relationship, is just awesome. It's beyond words. It's unreal."

Implicit in this statement is Walsh's philosophy of community service: that students will gain more than they put into the experience.

Walsh already has plans for new projects. She cited the Humane Society, Boys Hope/Girls Hope for West County students, and a new project called "night

Men At Work



The new CSP logo and motto

patrol." This night patrol consists of four to five seniors with a teacher going around the city along a planned route, giving coffee, tea, and food to homeless people. Walsh plans to enact this project in conjunction with St. Patrick Center, St. Louis'

see **SP, 6**

COMMENTARY

The passengers change. Don't they change anything?

Kevin Moore
Sports Editor

Two Sundays ago I was sitting behind the curtains at Senior Follies during intermission. Right before the senior video was about to start, a bunch of seniors found spots in the crevices offstage. We wanted to watch it together. I sat with Ben Wastler and Ryan Stoffel, and we talked about how odd it seemed that we were going to be leaving next year, all going to different colleges.

Watching the video evoked some great memories from high school. I thought about watching my first Wet Billies contest during Spirit Week freshman year. I thought about cheering and charging the field at football games after a big win. I thought about the great time I had at the Talent Show this year. In all of those memories, I thought about us, the class of '02. I don't want to leave these guys, my friends. I know I'll miss them.

I had already seen the video and heard the song countless times. After all, I helped film some of the clips, and I was there when Chip Deubner edited it throughout the year. Different lines of the Ben Folds song have affected me since I first heard the song, but as I sat considering my high school career a certain line jumped out at me: "And life barrels on like a runaway train,/ where the passengers change./ They don't change anything./ You get off, someone else can get on." That line kind of scared me. Are we those passengers getting off the train, not having changed anything?

That would be tragic, so I started trying to think of things that

we had changed at SLUH so I could ease my mind. Had we changed anything for the better while we were at SLUH? Was our being here important and meaningful? Or were we just there, easily replaceable by the next set of passengers, the class of '03?

My first impulse was to think about what we had changed about SLUH, the institution. The issue of student wellness was often discussed this year. Students gave their opinions in classes and the *Prep News*, and, although the administration hasn't made any solid changes yet, I'm fairly certain they will take into consideration what we've said about those issues. Recently a group of seniors has tried to create a more accepting and loving atmosphere at SLUH by leading the ally campaign. So, we did at least start to change some things at SLUH.

Yet I think we've made many important changes that aren't tangible and can't be written on a piece of paper. We've all made changes. Maybe we didn't change the school, but we've changed people. We've changed each other. None of us are the same people as we were four years ago when we went to our Direction Day as nervous freshmen. At my Direction Day I remember Fr. Hadel taking a picture of Jim Mohan, who had dyed blonde hair at the time, and telling Jim that he'd laugh when he saw that picture in four years. It's been four years; we've changed on levels much deeper than simply our physical appearance.

I'd heard that Ben Folds song hundreds of times, but I find it interesting that this notion of change came to me only when I was sitting with this group of guys, these friends I had made over

see **PASSENGERS**, 6

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks from a parent of the class of 2002

To the Editor:

During the past four years, I have seen physical, spiritual, and intellectual growth in my son, now ready to graduate from St. Louis U. High. I have witnessed the SLUH spirit, and seen him transformed into "a man for others."

At times the road was rocky, and I wondered if he would be able to meet the challenges. I knew that just because he was one of the "selected young boys" that started in the summer of 1998, it would not be an easy task to succeed. SLUH is a demanding school, and dedication, determination, and perseverance are required to succeed.

Many of life's lessons were learned during the past four years; some good, some bad. Many friendships were developed which I'm sure will last a lifetime.

My thanks to the entire SLUH community and especially the senior class for making the past four years such a great time.

A special thanks to the teachers, administrators, and staff that helped these young men during these past four years. You are

a dedicated group of individuals that make this school so special.

SLUH has prepared my son for the next transition phase of his life. The skills he acquired while at this school will allow him to succeed in college and whatever profession he chooses.

A few weeks ago, I asked my son if he had to select a high school again, would he choose SLUH. The answer was *yes*. I would bet that most of the senior class would provide the same answer.

I recall something that a parent of a 2001 SLUH graduate said to me at one of the football games: "Just because my son has graduated doesn't mean that I won't be at the SLUH events."

There have been many graduating classes before the class of 2002, and there will be many more after the graduating class of 2002. However when the graduates walk into Powell Hall to accept their diplomas, I hope it will be one of the proudest moments of their lives.

Congratulations Class of 2002

Pettit's stem cell transplant successful thus far

Active exercise regimen, positive blood tests contribute to success

Matt Arnold
Reporter

On February 19, Steve Pettit entered Barnes Siteman Cancer Center to undergo a stem cell transplant. John Dipersio performed the four-day-long procedure.

"Dr. Dipersio knew exactly how I'd feel during the procedure. He'd say, 'You'll need to cough about now,' and sure enough I'd cough," Pettit said. Dr. Dipersio is one of the top doctors at Barnes for stem cell and bone marrow transplants, and Barnes Siteman Cancer Center is one of the top ten cancer clinics in the nation.

Pettit was in the hospital for a total of twenty days. The four days of the actual operation were delicate ones. Doctors removed stem cells through a catheter in

Pettit's chest and froze them for later use. Pettit then went through two days of chemotherapy to kill all of the old stem cells. On the fourth day, doctors reintroduced healthy stem cells into Pettit's body cultured from the stem cells that were removed earlier. The recovery period from the operation was difficult for Pettit. All in all, he lost about twenty pounds.

"I wanted to eat, but I just couldn't eat," Pettit remarked about the difficulties of his recoveries. Although weakened by the operation, Pettit still made it to events such as Cashbah and the Father-Son Banquet.

About four months after his surgery, Pettit has gained back much of his strength and shows many good signs that the operation was a success.

"I'm doing a workout now where I walk for a little under an hour and (do)

curls," Pettit said, "and I try to get in as much golf as I can."

Many tests have come back with positive news for Pettit. Doctors say his blood looks good and his exercise routines are helping him stay healthy, too. On May 28 Pettit will travel to Boston to undergo a bone biopsy at Harvard's Dana Farber Center. The Dana Farber Center is one of the few clinics that runs tests to find the percentage of myeloma in the body. The tests will show if Pettit's cancer is in remission and if the operation was a success.

Pettit feels good about the progress he's made and is not forgetting about SLUH.

He commented, "I'm looking forward to next football season, working on Vision 2000, and volunteering at Loyola Academy."

Quizbills set team record, win a game at State

Joey Neilsen
Reporter

On Saturday, May 4, at 6:45 a.m., you were probably asleep in your bed—perhaps time well spent. Most students would even consider a Saturday morning to be the best time to sleep in, a day without bells and classes and teachers. On that particular Saturday morning, however, eight SLUH students and math teacher Tom Becvar thought otherwise. At that early hour, junior Mark Murphy and seniors Jon Britt, Conor Hagen, Ben McCloskey, Joey Neilsen, Brian Shaver, Tom Venker, and Jason Wever met Becvar, the moderator of the Quiz Bowl team, on the upper parking lot. Taking only pastries, bagels, juice, donuts, flash cards, and practice questions, the team left for the state competition in Columbia, Missouri.

The Jr. Bills knew the competition would be stiff. SLUH's official record, 4-0, seemed small compared to the 68-8 team they would be playing in the first round. Indeed, the future seemed grim for

the Quizbills at the end of the first quarter: Cape Central, their first opponent, was winning 90-50. Relief, though, came in the second round, the bonus round. The team took advantage of the extra points, jumping ahead of Cape Central, 205-200. The Jr. Bills played hard and managed to keep their lead for the rest of the game, winning 410-355.

"It was a great game," said Becvar. "It could have gone either way, but everybody contributed. They deserved the win." Although last year's Jr. Bills made it to the state competition, they were unable to beat any of their opponents. At least in recent times, this win is a team record.

The next rounds didn't go so well. SLUH played Parkway Central in the second round, and despite all the efforts made by the Jr. Bills, Central was too quick. The Bills lost the game 400-250. The next round would be the deciding round. To ensure its advance to the semifinals, the team would need to beat Webb City, a team they thought they could beat.

At the end of the first quarter, the game was tied at 50 points. But Webb City

took the lead in the bonus round and led 170-135 at the half. It turned out to be a lead the Quizbills would never break, and SLUH lost the game 370-230. Briefly, it seemed as if the Jr. Bills might advance to the semifinals anyway. There was a four-way tie for fourth place, but without enough points, the Quizbills were eliminated. Cape Central, the team SLUH beat, went on to win the tournament. The team takes great pride in its victory over the state champs.

Next year Mark Murphy will take over as captain, and six new seniors will join him, along with one junior, as every year. Until then, the buzzers will stay under Becvar's desk, waiting for February. But for the current seniors, the season is over.

"I had a great time," said Britt. And it was a good season. The team finished with an official record of 5-2, a district plaque, and a few team records.

Looking back over the last three months, all Tom Venker could say was, "Herbert Hoover. 1928."

Simek, DiRaimondo get their kicks elsewhere

Kevin Moore
Sports Editor

At the end of last summer, junior Frank Simek and sophomore John DiRaimondo left St. Louis U. High to pursue soccer careers elsewhere. Simek moved to London, England, and signed a four-year professional contract to play for Arsenal's Under-17 Youth Team, while DiRaimondo joined the United States Youth 17 National Team in Bradenton, Florida. Both players have found their experiences thus far to be particularly rewarding.

Simek, a defender, found the change to living in England quite easy, as he had already lived in England for six years when he was younger and had played soccer there during numerous summers. "I thought the transition went really well...I already knew the guys on the team," said Simek from his host couple's house in London. "Since I had lived there for six years, I knew people other than just my teammates that I could do stuff with on the weekends."

In order to make a lot of time for training, Simek is on a special school schedule in the British school system known as "Levels." He has a full day of schooling on Wednesdays, during which he works one-on-one with a tutor. "It's not really a typical high school situation...I can work at my own pace," explained Simek. On Monday mornings he takes an English class, but he devotes Monday afternoons and all of Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday to training with the Arsenal team. The team usually plays league games against other teams in the Under-17 Academy League on Saturdays.

Simek is content with his situation on the team. "Playing center back, I've been starting almost every game and getting to play the whole game," he said.

The club has even called him up

several times to play for the Under-19 team "to get experience with the older guys," said Simek.

His Under-17 Team reached the quarter finals in the Academy League this year. Simek had hoped for a better finish, but he said some injuries hampered the team's chances at getting further.



Frank Simek

In mid-June Simek will join the Under-20 U.S. National Team in Holland, where the team will play some clubs and other national teams. "I'm not sure how (the U.S. coaches) saw me, but they called Arsenal and asked if I could play on the team," said Simek.

Following the tournament in Holland, Simek will return to the United States, yet his summer vacation will be short as he will have to return to the Arsenal team in England

July 8. The only other time Simek has been able to come home was for a two-week Christmas break during which everyone on his team was able to go home.

Simek is heavily committed to the program and is glad he decided to sign with Arsenal. "I really am enjoying it. It's been a great experience to play professional soccer in England, especially for a team like Arsenal. Training daily with such good players really helps me improve my game," he said.

Although he plans to take the ACT and SAT tests this summer, Simek doesn't believe going to college will fit into his future plans. "Hopefully I'll just keep playing soccer in England," he said.

Although not based quite as far away from home as Simek, DiRaimondo has had an equally exciting year playing for the Youth 17 National Team. Although in

August he said he felt nervous leaving home as a fifteen-year-old, DiRaimondo said he soon adapted to his new home in Florida. "It was really hard to get adjusted during the first month...living on your own is a different lifestyle," he said. "But once I got to know my teammates better, it felt more like home."

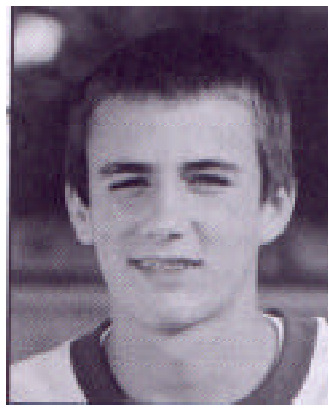
Like Simek, DiRaimondo has a different school schedule than the average high school student. He goes to school from 7:45 to 12:30 each weekday so that he has more time to train in the afternoon.

DiRaimondo said one of the more interesting aspects of his playing on the team is the amount of international traveling he has done. He has played in tournaments in Brazil, France, and even Northern Ireland.

"It was neat to see all of the different cultures, especially in Brazil," he said. "It was crazy in Brazil." He remembers his amazement at playing in front of a crowd of about 9,000 raucous fans. "The people

there were pretty friendly until we played Brazil. While we played Brazil, it was pretty crazy. People even started throwing bottles at us from the stands," he recalled.

His team accidentally played a Brazil team that was a year older, and his team lost 4-0. "Losing like that to a Brazil team that was a year older than us wasn't too bad," he said.



John DiRaimondo

DiRaimondo scored his first international goal in Brazil on a free kick against Panama. As a midfielder, he currently is second on his team with five international goals.

DiRaimondo will return to St. Louis on May 30, and he will be going back and forth from St. Louis to Florida throughout the summer.

"It's been an adventure, a big change," said DiRaimondo. "It's been good for me. I miss home, but it's the best place to be as far as soccer goes. It's what I want to do."

TICKET TO RIDE

(from 2)

which was a goal. While opinions differ on his greatest accomplishment, English department chair Chuck Hussung sees reduction of class size as the salient feature of Bannister's years at the U. High. "I've heard it said," remarked Hussung, "that you can count on a pastor for one big thing for a church. This principal will be remembered for adding teachers in a time when our student-teacher ratio had gotten way out of balance. I will always be grateful for that."

Administratively, Bannister added a Director of Admissions position. Also, admissions decisions now include the input of the President, a counselor, and a teacher of either freshman mathematics or freshman English, as well as the academic administration. The administration also formulated the profile for a successful student, making it more likely for selected students to remain for all four years.

The facilities have probably changed the most noticeably during Bannister's

time at SLUH. In 1995-96, new music facilities were added, as well as renovated science rooms. The next year, a new theater took up its position at the west end of campus, while the existing school building underwent renovation. In the following two years, SLUH saw improvements to the Gymnasium, the former Jesuit Chapel, and the Library. In 1999-2000, the main chapel was upgraded, and, this year, SLUH reclaimed the basement area and developed a coaches' commons.

Bannister's most valuable contribution, according to some, lay in his commitment to faculty development. "His best contribution to the school," said physics teacher Paul Baudendistel, "was to improve the morale of the faculty. It's much more positive than it was seven years ago."

"No doubt about it," agreed chemistry teacher Charlie Busenhart.

Further staff developments include an evaluation system for faculty, an Early Retirement Plan, a merit component to the teachers' salary scale, and a staff Spiritual Development Committee.

In 2000, Bannister received the Backer Award, which recognizes the lifetime achievement of an alumnus.

Many also noted Bannister's effervescence. "When he came into the school," said Becvar, "he brought a presence, which was outgoing, open, and he was here to make people feel good, to encourage them to do a good job."

Theology teacher Jim Linhares agreed: "His cheerful personality has lightened the mood in the building many days."

"He has been an exceptional administrator, and I have been happy to have learned from him," said theology teacher Alan Boedeker.

Best wishes will follow Bannister as he rides off into the sunset.

"I wish him the best," said Dean of Students Eric Clark.

Jan Cotter and Helen Klenklen, assistants in the main office, shared the sentiment of good wishes for Bannister, saying, "We hope that in the future, when he's semi-retired, that Dr. Bannister will have more time for fishing, learning new songs, and jokes."

SP

(from 2)

largest homeless care provider.

"We've done stuff like this in Australia, and we had seniors lining up. I hope we can have something like that here. I'm here to work for what's best for guys here," Walsh asserted.

Walsh succeeds current CSP moderator and Plant Manager Pat Zarrick, who, with his increasing duties as Plant Manager, could not keep up with the CSP regimen.

Zarrick's primary achievement in CSP was the expansion of the number of projects. As well as expanding into city sites like Adams School, Zarrick also melded Outdoor Experience Club projects with CSP projects, joining service and fun.

"(Walsh) was very interested and active when she was here last," Bannister said, citing her prior CSP involvement at SLUH as a qualification. Bannister denies concern about the high turn-

over of moderators. "If it were a club, I might have some concern with it. I see that kind of activity (CSP) as a more integral part of the school."

Bannister said that the school hoped to have a more permanent moderator after Zarrick, but his assumption of Paul Owens's role negated that possibility. Even Walsh's position is temporary, because her visa from Australia expires after two years. Bannister hopes Walsh's two-year stint will provide an opportunity for a more permanent moderator to step in. "I see an opportunity for transition and work with others so that other people can feel comfortable coming in," he said.

Though Zarrick expanded the number of sites for CSP, Walsh's primary goal is to increase involvement by students. "SLUH is a place of opportunity. We need to make guys more aware of what's out there," she stated. "That's what I see CSP as doing."

PASSENGERS

(from 3)

the last four years who have changed me, changed with me, three weeks before I would have to leave them. I'll always remember the times I've had with these guys; they are a part of me. I've worked on projects with them. I've gone out on the weekends with them. I've formed my opinions by listening to theirs. These things will live with me forever. We've made changes. It's kind of bittersweet to think about graduation on May 25, though I know, like the song says, it's time.

PN Announcement

The *Prep News* editors and staff would like to extend our most humble thanks and appreciation to everyone who has stapled on Friday mornings throughout the year. Without their tireless work and toleration of Ludacris' "Rollout," getting the *PN* out in time would never have been possible. Thank you.

A valediction: forbidding mourning for teachers

Bonnie Laughlin
History

Carolyn Blair
Counseling

Terry Murray
History

David Mueller
Reporter

History teacher Bonnie Laughlin will be leaving at the end of the year. She will go to Indiana University next year to begin earning a Ph.D. in American History, specializing in nineteenth century topics. She said she wants to earn her doctorate because, while teaching, she ran into material she wished to look at in more depth. That same eagerness for something new brought her to SLUH two years ago.

Laughlin arrived because of what she describes as a “fluke.” Upon receiving her master’s degree, she expressed interest in teaching. At that time, one of her professors informed her of the opening in SLUH’s history department. She applied and thoroughly impressed the administration at the interview with her historical knowledge, general prudence, and genuine kindness. The administration saw Laughlin was the obvious choice for the job.

Those she impressed at her interview are the friends she has made here and those she will miss when she leaves. “I have met some of the neatest people I have ever known here,” Laughlin remembered, “both students and faculty.” She will also miss teaching. She explains that when you teach, “it is fun to just jump in (to the material) and find out what really
see LAUGHLIN, 12



Dan Riley
Reporter

As the current school year comes to an end, some teachers and faculty members are packing up their belongings from their offices and tying up loose ends. Some will be leaving the SLUH community, unfortunately, not to return for the following year. Carolyn Blair, a bright and welcoming face in the Counseling Department, is one such individual.

Blair, who has graced the corridors of SLUH for four years, will be departing for a position in the Counseling Department of Clayton High School. Originally from Michigan, Blair came to SLUH after completing her master’s degree from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. In her four short years, Blair has worked closely with



ACES as a moderator and is proud of her work within the “African American niche” as a close friend and confidante to students. ACES has been a favorite organization for Blair at SLUH, and she will miss working intimately with the community to create cultural awareness among students.

Blair, who was not seeking a move from SLUH, was approached by contacts at the school with the opportunity of a job as a college counselor at Clayton. As a member of the Council of the SAT for the state of Missouri and a “heavily involved”
see BLAIR, 11

Tom Queathem
Reporter

Terry Murray, after ten years of dedicated service to SLUH, has decided to move on. He has learned a lot from SLUH and is looking forward to his new position at MICDS, where he will teach history and coach soccer.



During his ten-year stint at SLUH, Murray has been involved in an unbelievable number of extracurricular activities. His service to SLUH’s sports program has allowed him to be involved in a variety of activities: track for three years, swimming for ten, and soccer for eight. In addition to sports, Murray has contributed to SLUH by being involved in the Model UN, Student Advisory Committee, Ignatian Apostolate, and JSEA, while also serving as junior class moderator for the past three years.

Murray loves his job at SLUH and said, “(It) was a fantastic first teaching job.” Through his time here at SLUH he has learned very much and has been able to involve himself. He cherishes the students and says, “I’ve probably learned more from the students than anybody else.” The classroom environment has been great for him, and he treasures the way the students “humble (him).”

Through SLUH, Murray has learned many great lessons. He says that SLUH has forced him to “become a better teacher
see MURRAY, 12

Juggling, music, and monkeys

Circus Club's "Really Big Show" hits theater

Dan Sinnett
Reporter

Last Sunday, something so huge, so bizarre that it could only be called The Really Big Show, invaded the SLUH theater. The brainchild of Circus Club President Alex Jones finally hatched on Mother's Day. Jones called the show "something to build on for next year."

Dance teacher Janet Strezlec sees the potential that the show presented. She is working on combining the hilarity of Circus Club and the entertainment of the dance program into a single show to happen next spring. Said Strezlec, "It would be great. I love those guys."

The show consisted of lots of talent and plenty of audience participation. Juggling routines, including devil sticks and the diabolo, were performed with accompanying music, as Craig Hinders and Sean Smith exhibited their mastery. The audience responded very well to the Mad Libs, in which a member of the Circus Club

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CIRCUS CLUB



The Circus Club poses in the Danis Lobby.

asked the audience for words, and then read them back their zany story. At the conclusion of the show, the mystery band revealed themselves as none other than
see CLOWN, 9

Greekbills score big on NGE

Brian Fallon
Reporter

Earlier this year, seventeen students of Classical Greek participated in the National Greek Exam. Out of the seventeen seniors who took the exam, eleven received awards, including senior Jon Britt, who scored a perfect 40.

"I was surprised to hear that I did so well on the exam," said Britt. "It is amazing to see how much one can learn from just a year of taking a language." Other seniors who received high honors included red ribbon winners Michael Ziegler and Giles Walsh. Green ribbon merit winners included Joe Griffey, Ben McCloskey, Mark Peniston, Matt Pitlyk, Ryan Stoffel, Phil Vatterott, Brian Werner, and Joe Harvath.

The exam is given to high school seniors nationwide, along with many colleges and universities. "The exam is basically a reading comprehension test," said

Mary Lee McConaghy, who has taught Greek as a senior elective for ten years. "(The students) are given one or two lengthy passages in Greek, along with a series of questions based on content and grammar."

"I thought this year's results were outstanding," McConaghy continued, "especially in terms of how many people received recognition for their exams." She also mentioned that the students' textbook, which teaches classical Greek of the Attic dialect, has been beneficial to their success, especially their success in the exam itself.

"I think this kind of exam is an indicator of how much progress (the students) have made," McConaghy said, "as well as a way of seeing how they measure up against other students who are taking Greek across the country at their level. You work through the whole year, and you must wonder how you stand among other Greek students."

SLUH'S IRON MAN: POTWORA'S SCHOOL STREAK

Tim Piechowski
Reporter

Teachers dream of it. Most students are frightened by the prospects of it. But surely, teachers and students alike are awed by it: perfect attendance. Senior Joe Potwora is the man to talk to when it comes to this feat. He hasn't missed a day of school since he started kindergarten.

Potwora accounted for everything in completing this feat of perfect attendance, including illness, vacation, college visits, schoolwork, and diet.

The greatest threat to Potwora's perfect attendance record came in the winter of fourth grade, when he was told by doctors that he would need to have his tonsils removed. But as he was already five years into the game, Potwora masterminded his body and waited until Christmas break to have his tonsils removed. Potwora said, "I was sick on the weekends. I got lucky, I guess."

With three months off each year, Potwora easily took care of travel obligations. "I took vacations in the summer, and I also did my college visits in the summer," commented Potwora.

As the years wore on, Potwora sometimes tired of his mission. "I didn't want to come to school some days during senior year," he said. "There were a few days when my mom had to push me to go to school even though I didn't want to go because I had a couple of tests that day." Potwora claims he never tried to fake being sick to his mother.

When asked if diet was a major part of his not being sick, Potwora responded with a gleeful, "Yes," and went on to talk about how he eats whatever the cafeteria at SLUH has prepared for lunch, everyday, no matter what.

While not missing a day of school for approximately 2210 days (assuming 170 school days a year multiplied by 13 years) seems like it would be a rewarding experience
see IRON MAN, 9

PN66 closes year; PN67 editors, staff appointed

By the Prep News

With the end of the school year comes the end of the tenure of Andrew Ivers and Andy Neilsen as editors in chief of the *Prep News* and the appointment of junior Matt Hoffman in their place. Senior Kevin Moore bows out as sports editor to Tim Piechowski. Junior Geoff Brusca steps up as editor with junior Denis Agniel as assistant editor.

Alex Born fulfilled the duties of photography editor this year, and Chip Deubner worked as a technical advisor and web editor during his junior and senior year. Dan Butler, who served on Core Staff this year, will also be leaving.

"Certainly (next year's editors) are going to have a tough time trying to follow (the current editors') act," said moderator Steve Missey. "The depth with which this year's editors have covered their stories will be tough to match, but these guys, I think, have the talent and the enthusiasm to give it a great shot."

Having worked as a layout artist since the beginning of his sophomore year,

CLOWN

(from 8)

SLUH's own The Big O, which features Doc Crozter, John Parr, and Rob Boehm. They excited the crowd and paid a special tribute to mothers with their second and final song "Would You Come."

Despite the success of the show, May 12 was a bittersweet day for the Circus Club as they say goodbye to many seniors. Alex "Michael Jordan" Jones, Craig "Scottie Pippen" Hinders, Sean "Toni Kukoc" Smith, Karl "Luc Longley" Guenther, Jeff "Steve Kerr" Scott, and Will "Dennis Rodman" Halaz have reigned supreme over Circus Club since their sophomore year. Hinders expressed his thanks to the club and their members, saying "The Circus Club has been very, very good to me." Patrick Jones, Alex's brother, will head up the club next year. He, along with the other members of the club, have some awfully big clown shoes to fill.

Hoffman goes into Volume LXVII after spending the last two years laying out on Thursdays to see each issue to its end. He has also worked as a reporter since the fall of his junior year.

"All the signs point to Hoffman as editor in chief," Missey explained. "He's a skilled layout person—he gets things to look clean and graceful. He's just calm and cool. He's going to be able to keep track of lots of different things with grace and skill.

"He's one of the most relentlessly curious people I've ever met," Missey said. "He's committed to knowing what is happening in the school because he thinks it's important."

Of Hoffman's staff, Missey said, "Brusca is talented, energetic—a terrific writer, very creative. Denis is amazing—just a natural, plain and simple. Piechowski is fantastic with detail and will be a terrific sports editor because of it."

IRON MAN

(from 8)

rience; however, Potwora said that other than his education, the only things he had ever received in regards to his perfect attendance were a plaque from his grade school, a laser pen from Vice Principal Eric Clark, \$5 for lunch from Clark each year, and a SLUH card recognizing his achievement, which was again from Clark.

While Potwora must hold some kind of record for his school attendance, he still has work to do if he truly wants to be considered the "Iron Man" of consistency. His most definite, and more famous competitor for the Iron Man spot is



The PN67 editorship from left to right: Geoff Brusca, Matt Hoffman, Tim Piechowski, and Denis Agniel.

Sophomores Brian Kane and Pat Meek will continue next year on core staff. They worked as reporters freshman year and on the core staff this year. Joining them will be junior Pat Stephens and sophomore Brian Fallon, who worked as reporters this year.

"The neatest thing is that all four guys are going to work together in a really interesting way. They have a unique dynamic," said Missey.

Cal Ripken Jr., who managed to show up to work at 2,632 straight games for the Baltimore Orioles baseball team. If



Iron Man Joe Potwora

Potwora wanted to surpass this record of consistency, he would most likely have to go without missing a day into the middle of his senior year of college, if you take into account the fact that most colleges have about 30 days less of school in a two-semester period. If he were to attend all classes through the end of a 4-year college career, Potwora would have approximately 2770

days of attendance perfection.

SUMMER SCHOOL

(from 1)

"We want to look at what other Jesuit schools have done and learn from that," said counselor Dave Mouldon. He added that the idea of support groups and bringing in speakers to increase communication is popular and being discussed very seriously, but that it could lead to lapses in other areas of counseling. "Focusing too much on wellness could take away from college counseling, so you've got to find a balance," he pointed out.

But, of course, all of this comes in the wake of the Ally campaign. "We'd like to bring in outside experts, psychiatrists, psychologists, so we can learn about students with questions about their sexuality," said Mouldon. "Right now (the Counseling Department) is just trying to learn so we can help students." Gay students have become a concern, especially with a lack of means to deal with their particular

problems. The meeting will take a special look at their situation and ways to improve it and help them, considering the awareness raised by their plight in the wake of the Ally controversy. But Mouldon said it is important to remember, considering wellness affects all students, that the "Ally (program) is just one particular group."

Another new improvement being considered is changing the structure of homeroom with an emphasis on future sophomore classes. "I'm concerned about the sophomores," Sheridan said. He believes the support structure is sufficient for juniors and seniors because of leadership projects and activities, and for freshman because of the special attention given to them, but sophomores get lost in the shuffle. The homeroom renovation being discussed would provide ongoing senior support and advisement for those sopho-

mores. The new system would hopefully help nurture sophomores by having seniors give them advice on the changing pressures of changing expectations and involvements.

One huge goal for this would be to bring parents in as the most important support for their children. The parents are the best people to help students, and the last step of all the programs would be to integrate parents and improve communication between them and their sons. "We want to educate adults in being proper instruments of help," Sheridan enforced.

The eventual goal of the meeting will be to improve awareness of the problems and identify the areas that need to be worked on. This process may take years, but all those involved want to make improvements immediately.

"Conversation must lead to structural renovation," Sheridan closed.

ADMISSIONS

(from 1)

process became complicated. "We need someone to coordinate," said Bannister.

At a faculty meeting in December, Bannister asked any faculty members interested in leadership positions to talk to him. "We're putting our emphasis in staff development," said Bannister regarding the decision to ask teachers to fill administrative roles.

Despite the open offer, only two teachers approached Bannister about leadership positions, and Hannick was chosen for Director of Admissions. "Hannick came to mind because he's been doing some work in statistical analysis," said Bannister. Hannick has been researching the admissions process with regards to what makes a successful student at SLUH and what doesn't.

"This seems to be the next step in what I've already done," said Hannick. He wants to become a full-time administrator and would like to become principal after Dr. Schenkenberg retires. "This is a way to get administrative experience," said Hannick.

Hannick will continue teaching math part-time. He will be given an office in the main office next year.

2002 Senior Prom



With Andy Schumert in the middle, Jr. Bills and their dates wave their hands to the music.

"Prom was mad bling-blinging," gushed senior Dave Decepeida.

Senior Prom 2002 was held on May 10 at the Cedars, in downtown St. Louis. 222 couples attended, the "most ever," according to senior class moderator Tom Becvar. Eighteen faculty members chaperoned the evening, which began as the couples arrived by 8:00, many in rented stretch limousines.

After a half hour of mingling and a sumptuous dinner, everyone migrated to the dance floor to bust some crazy moves. The night featured a TKO DJ, who tried to

play everyone's favorite dance and rap songs. STUCO President Colin Carroll added, "Everyone looked spectacular, and my eyes were blinded by the ice that people were flossin'." After hours of bumpin' and grindin' on the too-small dance floor, everyone left exhausted.

"This prom went very well. Everyone had a good time...it was one of the most enjoyable proms," Becvar noted.

Carroll summed up the evening, saying, "The music, the dancing, the food, it was all awesome." —Dan Butler

Long named Swim bills coach for '03 season

**Mike Petersen
Reporter**

For the last ten years, Terry Murray held control of SLUH's varsity swimming program. As "T-Bone" Murray departs to MICDS to be the head soccer coach, Fritz Long will take over the reigns driving SLUH's swim team. Also, Jim Knapp, S.J., will replace Steve Schad as the assistant coach. Diving Coach Brendan LeBrun will remain as SLUH's diving coach.

Long, a teacher at Rosati-Kain High School, was a graduate of Regis High

School in Denver, Colorado, where he was a student of Knapp's. After graduating from Creighton University, he spent a year teaching at DeSmet as part of the ASC. Although he will remain teaching at Rosati for the 2002-2003 swim season, he assures that swimming standards will be "at or higher than the level of Coach Murray."

Athletic Director Dick Wehner described the off-campus coaching situation as not a problem, commenting, "You will have Fr. Knapp to reach any time. He knows a little bit about swimming and will be the straw that stirs this drink."

Long has already set some high goals for the upcoming season, saying, "We hope to win all dual meets and race our best times."

When asked whether it would be acceptable to refer to Long as "Fritz-dog," Long replied, "I'll have to think about that one."

Murray reflected on his departure from SLUH: "Leaving the swim team was definitely the hardest."

BLAIR

(from 7)

participant on the Council of Missouri Admissions Counselors, she was aware of the available position and was encouraged to pursue the opportunity by colleagues from the Clayton School District.

The move will enable her to counsel fewer students at a time, allowing her to become more familiar with those students. She will be working "specifically with juniors and seniors," helping them apply and prepare for college. Besides more one-on-one time with the students, another benefit of the move is schooling for her young children, who will be able to attend the Clayton School District because of her employment there.

Blair will miss advising the driven students of SLUH, saying, "Everybody's here for the same purpose, which is refreshing."

It is obvious that Blair's departure will be disappointing to many; after all, how many counselors show their appreciation for a good Q&A session by handing out Chocolate Creme Nestle Treatures?

Quote o' the Week

"How many a year has passed and gone,
And many a gamble has been lost and won,
And many a road taken by many a first friend
And each one of them I've never seen again."

—Bob Dylan

MUD FIELD

(from 1)

Hellman says that the date of the opening of the field "is really controlled by the City of St. Louis and the Parks Department," but "SLUH is really happy it is being delayed because it will allow time for the the grass to take hold." There are actually two new "higher quality" fields being built, according to Hellman. One of these fields will be used as the team's practice field and the other as a game field. In addition



A view of the incomplete baseball field in Aviation Field.

to the new drainage system, the field will have a new irrigation system, dugouts, lights, and fences. These fields are on the western edge of the Aviation Field near the Parks Department.

But SLUH will not be the only school to be using the newly-renovated fields. Any other school or association that wishes to use the fields can request a permit for their use and get a slot of games for next spring. SLUH varsity baseball coach Steve Nicollerat said that those other prospective tenants include a Public High League and Forest Park Community College.

The switch to Forest Park for the baseball team comes after twelve years of play at Heine Meine, a facility in Lemay. Nicollerat said that Heine Meine's distance from SLUH and the fact that they had to split time with Hancock makes the

new field in Forest Park a better fit for SLUH.

"Hopefully more guys will come to the games, considering they will be closer to the school," said Nicollerat.

Those students will be able to sit in some of

the 400 seats behind home plate and the areas on the sides and outfield. Referring to the new drainage system, Nicollerat said, "If it rains at eleven in the morning and the sun comes out, we will still be able to play a game at 4 o'clock." This is very important because of the amount of games that were rained out this year. The team also has first priority to the fields and will be able to practice there from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. after school. The new field will be professionally maintained and will feature Bermuda grass.

LAUGHLIN

(from 7)
matters about it... You learn so much more." There are some aspects of SLUH that have been very good for Laughlin. She remarked, "When I teach here, I feel I can bring morality (into the classroom), whereas I could not do that in other places." She went on to say, "One of the greatest aspects of (SLUH) is the intellectual connection I (share) with my colleagues."

One of those colleagues, history teacher Dan Monahan, commented, "She has really impressed me." He is sorry to see her leave but understood that her departure is the best thing for her right now. Most of all he said he would "miss her fire for her work... which helped rekindle (his) fire to stay on top of the field."

She has made an immeasurable impact on her students. Junior Dan Riley said the best thing about her from a student's perspective is, "she always finds

a way to make her lesson plan interesting. She has a creative way to excite her students about history." However, Riley maintains he will miss her kindness and thoughtfulness the most.

Although Laughlin says, "I am really glad I came here," she said that if she wants to teach again, it most likely will not be back at SLUH. Her favorite part of teaching is when the students become interested, and even though the students here are very interested in the material, she feels that a more diverse environment would be better for her. For that reason, Laughlin hopes to be able to teach someday in college, where the students come from all over the country and bring new perspectives to the classroom with them.

Perhaps Laughlin summed up her career at SLUH the best: "It has just been great for me."

MURRAY

(from 7)
and wiser person." The job taught him great people skills, but he hopes to become "more open and a better listener." He feels one of the most valuable lessons he learned has been how to prepare for class, to be organized, and to be professional.

Next year Murray will be moving on to a position at Mary Institute-Country Day School. He will be MICDS's head soccer coach and hopes to set up their program. In addition to soccer, he will be teaching U.S. History and a few senior electives. SLUH gave him the experience necessary to move on and he is "leaving because of a great opportunity that was presented to me." As well as working at MICDS next year, Murray is looking forward to building and working on his family life and continuing work at the graduate level. Murray is a man who always challenges himself and is always trying to make progress and he looks forward to his future.

Announcements

Dauphin 2003 - in the planning stages.

Any student who is looking for an outlet for his energies and his talent will want to consider joining next year's yearbook staff. The needs and opportunities are many: full-time needs for complete layout and writing, full-time needs for photography, full-time needs for reporting, and full-time needs for creativity. None of these areas is mutually exclusive. There are also numerous part-time needs, such as writing season-ending summaries of the various sports teams, identifying students for photo captions, maintaining archival information, contributing appropriate art work, etc. The kinds of contributions that any student can make to the yearbook can be flexible.

Please consider this invitation seriously if you have any interest in the yearbook. Once you have decided to "make the move," please see either Mr. Rosenberg (in the theology department office or anywhere else) or Mr. Keefe (in the foreign languages department office or anywhere else) in order to "sign on the dotted line."

Prep News

St. Louis' only
weekly high school
newspaper.

www.sluh.org
prepnews@sluh.org

"End of the Year Credits"
Volume LXVI, Issue 10

Editors in Chief: Andrew Ivers, Andy Neilsen

Sports Editor: Kevin Moore

Photography Editor: Alex Born

Core Staff: Denis Agniel, Geoff Brusca, Dan Butler, Matt Hoffman, Brian Kane, Patrick Meek, Tim Piechowski

Web Staff: Chip Deubner

Reporters: C. J. Baricevic, Rico Bertucci, John Berosky, Nick Brescia, John Castelli, Compiled From Sources, Brian Fallon, Jim Fox, Dan Julius, Mike Gau, Brian Gilmore, Alex Green, Chris Guilfooy, Joe Harvath, Jimmy Heisner, Paul Hoglebe, Andrew Hrdlicka, Reid Heidenry, Scott Isaak, Patrick Ivers, Joshua Jasper, Bobby Lachky, Justin Luner, Patrick Lyons, Joe Mantovani, Nate McMahill, David Mueller, Dane

Moody, Matt Mourning, Joey Neilsen, Matt Oehler, Kevin Pape, Michael Petersen, John Pimmel, Aidan Podleski, Tom Queathem, Tom Recktenwald, John Roth, Tim Roth, Chris Seals, Peter Segrist, Adam Shukwit, Dan Sinnett, Brian Slater, Mike Smallwood, Pat Steinway, Patrick Stephens, John Stewart, J.R. Strzelec, Ryan Vierling, Brian Wacker, Giles Walsh, Andrew Zimmerman
Guest Reporters: Emily Augsburg, Ann Schroeder

Computer Consultant: Mr. Bob Overkamp
Guest Editors: Dianne Eikenberry, Rachel Mazzarella

Moderator: Mr. Steve Missey

Guest Starring: Ms. Bonnie Laughlin

Masthead Design: Rachel Marling

Artists: Dave Decepida

The *Prep News* is a student publication of St. Louis University High school. Copyright ©2002 St. Louis University High School *Prep News*. No material may be reprinted without the permission of the moderators and editors.



DRAWING BY DAVE DECEPIDA

Volleybills fall to Griffins in semifinals

**Brian Wacker
Reporter**

Coming off a hard-fought loss to Vianney in its season finale, the SLUH varsity volleyball team wiped the slate clean and prepared for District action at Lafayette on Tuesday.

SLUH was ranked sixth in the area after the season ended, despite big wins over DeSmet, CBC, and Vianney. Since rankings were based on records alone, SLUH (17-6) lost home-court advantage and had to travel to Kansas, er, Lafayette, where the high-flying Lancers were ranked third.

In the first round of districts, the VolleyBills had little trouble with Francis Howell North, disposing of them easily 15-0, 15-2. After watching Lafayette whoop up on their first round opponent, the stage was set for an exciting district finals match. "We didn't want to take

these guys too easily," said senior captain Ryan Harris. "They are a good team."

But SLUH proved to be the better team. The chemistry was there as SLUH won 15-7 in the first game. The second game was a little sloppy, as unforced errors, which had plagued the Jr. Bills all year, kept the game close. But the Poetry-teacherbills pulled away at the end, winning the second game 15-12. The district championship set up what the team had been waiting for all year, a date with second ranked Vianney in the state semifinal at Meramec on Wednesday.

The teams were pumped. The fans came out in hordes. "This is what I had been living for since freshman year," said senior John Thuet.

The first game started off in true

Vianney/SLUH fashion, hard-fought points and thrilling plays. But midway through, Vianney's Phil Goedecker reeled



Ryan Harris sets the ball as Jim Lutkewitte and Alex Lepp prepare for the kill.

off eight straight points on serves, putting the first game out of reach for SLUH, who fell 15-7.

see SPOT RUN, 16

Buntbills roll with district win over Normandy

**John Stewart
Reporter**

Years of training, months of off-season workouts, and many hours of dedication towards the sport are finally about to pay off for many high school baseball players. District playoffs began late this week with the Basebills looking to extend their district championship streak to 11, against many of the foes that make up District 6.

However, the Nicolleratbills had a little unfinished business to take care of before they entered the postseason. The Falcons of Rockwood Summit traveled to Heine Meine this past Saturday afternoon to take on a tired and sluggish Jr. Bill squad. More than half the team was busy the night before, as twelve of the Basebills attended a SLUH-affiliated dance. Early the next morning, they were expected to be ready for ball, and, fortunately for every U. High baseball fanatic, they battled through their struggles and fought off a feisty Summit team for a 4-2 victory.

"That was a really tough situation,"

said left fielder Ryan Wessels. "There's really nothing to do but go out and play as hard as possible even though you're not sure you can do it. We did fairly well considering the conditions."

The star of the game was undoubtedly junior pitcher Tyler Faulstich. He completely over-matched the lowly Falcon hitters, going the distance while only allowing two runs on a handful of hits. He also struck out 10 batters and improved his record to 6-2. Also, he came up with the biggest hit of the game in the fourth inning, when he drove in two runs on a single through the left side of the infield that put the Jr. Bills up 3-1. With the victory, the team improved its overall record to 14-5.

"We definitely wanted to go into districts playing well," said Faulstich. "I think we accomplished that by stepping

up in the last couple of games. Hopefully the bats will get hot again, and we can make a run at this thing."

The next step towards a state championship was the start of district play. Drawing the #1 seed in District 6, the Jr. Bills received a first-round bye and would eventually play the winner of the U. City vs. Normandy game. Either team would prove to be a favorable match for the Jr. Bills considering they outscored both teams by a total of 35-4. However, it is never smart to underestimate a team, no matter what the skill level;

the Jr. Bills did not make this mistake when facing the Vikings of Normandy on Wednesday.

Trying to emulate what they did against the Vikings on April 6th, the Jr. Bills jumped out to a quick 6-0 lead after two innings as juniors Pat Feeney and

see SQUEEZE PLAY, 16



Matt Lange hurls the ball against Normandy.

Schumert, Sharamitaro golf at state

Kevin Moore
Sports Editor

Each spring the St. Louis U. High varsity golf squad knows that the competition at districts will probably prove deeper than the competition at the state tournament. Although this year's team placed third in districts behind Chaminade and DeSmet—therefore failing to qualify for the state tournament—seniors Andy Schumert and Joe Sharamitaro qualified for the individual state competition.

Both players made the trip to Bolivar, Missouri, for the tournament on Monday and Tuesday, yet neither played as well as they had hoped. "The conditions on the course were pretty bad," explained head coach Greg Bantle. "There was a deluge on Sunday, making Monday's conditions pretty terrible."

Despite the poor course conditions,

the tournament directors still decided to make the players play the ball down in the rough, meaning that when a player hit a ball in the rough he couldn't pick it up and place it higher on the grass. With such wet conditions, hitting out of the rough was



Joe Sharamitaro (far right) looks on at the state tourney.

even more difficult than normal.

Schumert and Sharamitaro started to play a practice round on Sunday as it drizzled, but they got through only nine holes before it started to thunder and light-

ning, forcing them to cut their practice round short.

On Monday Schumert shot an 8-over-par 80. "With the poor course conditions, that turned out to be a good score. It probably placed him in the top quarter of scores," said Bantle.

Sharamitaro started off the tournament by shooting an 88, but, with better course conditions on Tuesday, he improved and shot an 82. "He rebounded pretty well the second day," said Bantle.

Schumert shot an 88 the second day, despite improved course conditions. "The conditions the second day were great, but they placed the pins in more difficult spots the second day so the scores would be higher. Their

plan worked," described Bantle.

Schumert commented, "It was disappointing that I didn't play as well as I would have hoped, even though the con-

see ALBATROSS, 18

JV SPRING SPORTS WRAP

C-TEAM ROLLER HOCKEY

Record: 4-10

Coach Rusty Parker:

"As a team we made tons of progress. Even if we didn't win, every player played with heart every game."

Highlight of the season:

The C-team had a comeback win against DeSmet for its first win. The team was down 4-2 with 3:00 minutes left in the game. Upon pulling their goalie, they managed to score two comeback goals and tie the game 4-4 with 15 seconds left. Two players dove in front of the net to stop goals on an empty net. The team ended up winning the game 5-4.

JV VOLLEYBALL

Record: 16-1

Coach Terry Quinn: "We have seven sophomores whose collective record is 34-1; that looks pretty good for the future of volleyball at SLUH."

Highlight of the season:

The team beat Vianney at home, in what

Quinn described as a "thrilling three-game match." The team beat Vianney 17-15 in the third game.

B BASEBALL

Record: 11-5

Coach Scott Gilbert:

"There was an overwhelming sense of team among this group of guys. Each and every time we fell behind we battled back."

Highlight of the season:

The B-team was down 9-3 in the fourth inning against Chaminade and battled back for a 12-11 win. They scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning with one out at a packed Heine Meine.

C BASEBALL

Record: 6-2

Coach Paul Sheridan, S.J.:

"This team has character and is fun to work with; they have great potential as the B-Team."

Highlight of the season:

11 rainouts

JV TENNIS

Record: 4-1-3

Coach Miles Grier: "The JV had impressive showings from several freshmen, who make me excited about next year's tennis team."

JV LACROSSE

Record: 7-2

Coach Tony Plein: "We have a lot of depth, which has been one of our strengths. We are expecting a strong finish in the tournament."

Highlight of the season:

The team enters the JV tournament at Parkway Central this Saturday and Sunday.

C LACROSSE

Record: White team 6-2, Blue team 5-3

Both teams had several rainouts which were not rescheduled.

Steve Schad, White team coach: "Our focus wasn't on winning games. They really perfected their skills."

Tennisbills

Joe Harvath
Reporter

This Saturday, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at Parkway South, the Tennisbills hope to move one step closer to the state tournament by advancing past Sectionals. The Backhandbills take on the Patriots of Parkway South, who tied with Kirkwood last week for first in their district. The Patriots should look pretty familiar to the Tennisbills because for the most part they have returned everyone from last year's team, which knocked SLUH out of Sectionals last season in the first round. That should provide enough motivation for the Acebills to overcome the South tennis team.

If SLUH successfully overcomes the favored Patriots, like the Kornfeldbills did this fall, they will move on to play the winner of Kirkwood and Cape Girardeau

O'Brien leads slew of sectional qualifiers

Brian Gilmore
Reporter

For the SLUH distance team, excellence has come to be a simple fact of life this season. Orchestrated by distance coach Tim Chik, the squad has provided the track team with a steady flow of points all season long. With the postseason now underway, the guys have a chance to make their names better known state-wide.

At last Saturday's District 2 meet at Eureka High School, SLUH qualified athletes for tomorrow's Sectionals in five events, with four from distance events alone. The top four finishers in each event moved on to Sectionals. The five sectional qualifiers are up from last season's four.

Tom O'Brien led the charge for SLUH, anchoring the victorious 4x800-meter team and qualifying in two other open events. Running with O'Brien in the 4x800 were Kevin Crean, Pat Leinauer, and Peter Schaefer. After Crean and Leinauer ran with the leaders, Schaefer exploded out to the lead with a 1:57 leg, propelling O'Brien to a lead that he would not relinquish. Beating their challengers

squash the competition

Central that afternoon at one o'clock at Kirkwood Park. The winner of that game earns the right to advance to the team portion of the state tournament in Springfield.

No matter what the outcome of this weekend, the season has been a definite success overall. Returning only three of last year's top six players, the Grier/Schmidtbills were not sure what to expect as far as overall team success was concerned. But everyone on the team stepped up and raised their game to another level, helping the team tremendously.

As coach Vincent Schmidt said, "These young men went above and beyond every expectation Coach Grier and myself had going into the season." The season included a third-place finish in the Belleville East Tournament, first place in conference dual meets, third in the MCC Tournament, Chaminade's only loss to a

4A team, and a repeat as District Champs in record-setting fashion. A win at Sectionals and a ticket to state for the team would only add to the success. As one of the coaches of another team in the Jr. Bills' district said, "(The Jr. Bills) really came out of nowhere, shocked everyone, and guaranteed a finish as at least one of the top sixteen teams in the whole state. (They) had unseeded players in the semi-finals of every bracket of this district tournament. That's impressive."

Hopefully, the whole team will be playing in the state tournament in two weeks in Springfield. But if not, they will still be represented very well by Pat Steinway, who qualified for the individual tourney. Everyone from SLUH should come out to Parkway South Saturday morning to help cheer the Tennisbills as they fight for their spot in the state tournament.

from Parkway South and Washington, the team ran an overall time of 8:09.51.

"We knew going in that there would be some great competition from Parkway South and Washington," said Schaefer, "and it was nice to be able to run with them. As far as tomorrow goes, I'd like to see us run around eight flat." Taking Leinauer's place in the relay at Sectionals will be sophomore Steve Nagel.

Racing only to win, O'Brien later won the 1600-meter run in a time of 4:28.02, outdistancing Eureka's Tony Payton, Washington's Joe Nagel, and Rolla's Michael Issac for the win. Crean finished 5th in 4:36.08.

O'Brien then came back to qualify in the 800-meter run in 2:00.12, finishing second behind Hutsel's (from Parkway South) 1:58.93. Schaefer was third in 2:00.61.

"Tipper and I had some trouble getting boxed in, and with the slow first lap, I knew it was going to take a quick finish to qualify," said Schaefer, "but I knew we had the guns to do it."

Running a gutsy race, John Parr won the late-afternoon 3200-meter in 9:57.38.

Parr had been feeling ill all afternoon, having to withdraw from the 4x800 he had been slated to run. Once the race started, though, Parr found his groove, and he was the only runner to crack the ten-minute barrier on a warm, humid afternoon. South's Mike Serniak was second in 10:02.20, 9th in the 4A 3200 last season at State. Leinauer ran strong, but he was unable to qualify, running 10:23.82 for 5th place.

"After four years of hard work, it's great to see the success starting to come for us," said Parr, "and it would be a huge honor to qualify for State. It's going to take a smart, fast race on Saturday." Farmington's Aaron Grimes and South's Serniak are among the favorites to qualify that could provide that fast pace towards the front.

High jumper Reid Heidenry added another gold medal to his impressive array of hardware, clearing 6'0" for the district title. Two other jumpers also hit 6'0", but Heidenry won by virtue of fewer scratches. Karl Guenther wrapped up his track career with a big day, jumping 5'8"

SQUEEZE PLAY

(from 13)

Andy Hecht led the attack, combining for five hits and as many RBIs in the contest. That proved to be more than enough for hurler Matt Lange, as he showed that he was superior by executing his pitches on both sides of the plate and keeping the hitters off balance with a consistent curve ball. Lange, along with junior pitcher Rico Bertucci, combined for the Jr. Bills' second no-hitter of the season, an uncommon feat in this circuit of baseball. The final score was a 10-0 whipping that put the Jr. Bills in the district championship.

"I felt really good out there today," said Lange. "I really wanted to help put us on the right foot early on in the playoffs. I'm really confident right now, and hopefully we'll be able to continue this level of play until June."

The offense received a much-needed burst as they exploded for ten runs on 14 hits. The Rawlingsbills played maybe their best all-around game since their win over

SPOT RUN

(from 13)

The second game started off similarly to the first one. Points were hard to come by as the teams found themselves tied 6-6. But Vianney rallied for seven of the next eight points to go ahead 13-7. Just as the "It's all over!" cheers began from the Vianney faithful, SLUH rallied like left-wingers at a Nader speech. They scored the next seven points to take a 14-13 lead.

Meanwhile, sports commissioner Adam Shukwit was booted because of his excessive taunting of Vianney players. The Vianney head coach was becoming increasingly annoyed by Shukwit's antics and pleaded to the refs to put a stop to it.

With Shukwit leading cheers from the exit door, the SLUH fans cheered their team back into the game. With the Volleybills up 14-13, the opportunity was golden. But the execution never came. Instead Vianney fought back to take the lead 16-15. After numerous sideouts, Vianney put the game away, 17-15, ending SLUH's season.

CBC on April 23rd. This is definitely the time of year to find their game and to play their best, so hopefully the Jr. Bills will be able to continue their hot streak and eventually play at the University of Missouri-Columbia in a matter of two weeks.

The pitching staff appears to be in the best condition of the season, as both starting pitchers, Lange and Faulstich, are at the top of their games. Usually the team who wins the state championship is the team who pitches the best, and this starting rotation, along with the dominating bullpen, appears to be ready to accept the challenge and lead the team down the stretch. Many of the Jr. Bill batters have gone through slumps throughout the duration of the season, but it appears as though they have overcome their troubles; they now look eager to collaborate with the pitching staff to help the squad out by any means necessary.

The convincing victory led the Basebills into the district championship

"The game was really disappointing," remarked senior Colin Carroll. "It stinks when you make it this far and don't play your best. That wasn't our best game."

Senior Jim Lutkewitte echoed Carroll, saying, "We didn't play to our potential. We could have beaten those guys."

The season was not a loss, though. The final record of 19-7 is nothing to be ashamed of. With big wins and tough losses against Vianney and DeSmet, the Jr. Bills felt all of the emotions of a great season. A strong senior class leaves the program in the hands of a JV team that went 13-1 this year. Next

game against #2 seed Ritenour that was originally scheduled for Thursday afternoon but was cancelled due to inclement weather. Ritenour has held their own this season in a very competitive Suburban North conference, going 14-10 while hanging close with some of the better teams in the area.

"Ritenour has a good team," said head coach Steve Nicollerat. "They've won 14 games this year, and they should be able to play us close."

Fan attendance at Heine Meine this season hasn't been superlative, but the team would like to thank everyone who has made the effort to come out and support the team.

There is still time for the U. High baseball faithful to come on out and support this team if they make it into the state tournament. Check the baseball section of the sports bulletin board outside of the cafeteria to find out game times of the possible sectional matchups.

year's team will be led by junior starters Alex Lepp, Brian Guntli, and Tim



The Jr. Bills huddle one last time after the game.

O'Connell.

The team thanks all those who came out to see them throughout the year and would like to wish all the seniors well next year.

May 17, 2002

Lacrossers win two straight to end regular season

CBC/Webster winner to be first opponent in playoffs

Jim Fox
Reporter

This past week brought a lot of action to the St. Louis U. High lacrosse team (well, at least when compared to the previous week). After a week of rainouts following the CBC game, the Jr. Bills were forced to play three games in five days to close out the regular season. Their first game, against MICDS last Saturday, was a 6-3 loss, but they won their last two 17-6 and 17-1 against conference opponents Hickman and Lindbergh, respectively.

Despite not having played in a week, SLUH came out strong against the MICDS Rams, one of the area's best teams. The Jr. Bills' defense set an early tone; with swift checks, aggressive play and goalie Mike Lewis standing on his head in the net, one of the area's more potent offenses was shut down.

On the offensive end of the field, the Cradlebills got settled in nicely. After getting an early goal from Matt Hof, they settled the ball down and controlled the play in the first two quarters. The only thorn in the side of the offense was the rust caused by not playing in a week. All in all, the Jr. Bills played well in the first half, and led 3-2. As in the CBC game, though, the second half was a different story.

Starting the second half, the Laxbills were caught relaxing. Sloppy passing, lackadaisical ground ball play, and lousy stick protection cost the Jr. Bills valuable offensive possessions and allowed the Rams to control the second half. Also, with the help of a few Lacrossebills' penalties, MICDS was able to jump ahead 4-3. They didn't relinquish their lead

SLUH coach Barrett Smith felt the

first half showed the team's strength, saying, "We could out-play and beat (MICDS), but with unforced errors, we take ourselves out of the game."

Putting the loss behind them, the Titanclassichandlebills had some house cleaning to do within their conference in order to secure a first-round bye in the playoffs. Their first challenger would be Columbia-Hickman. Taking an immediate 3-0 lead, the team's overconfidence once again took hold as Hickman scored five of the game's next six goals. The J-

pitched his tent as he camped out on the crease, was suddenly wide open. He hit Bartel with the pass, and Bartel, like any experienced attackman, dip-and-dunked the goalie for his first goal of the year.

"I knew it was a crucial point in the game," said Bartel of the team's 17th goal. "I just used all my experience stopping attackmen to think of what I had to do to score that one. Too bad I don't get the Lion's Choice."

In their last game of the regular season, against Lindbergh, the Barrettbills

honored the seniors for all of their hard work and leadership with a fast start. Jumping to an immediate lead, SLUH put it into cruise control and coasted through the game. Junior John Belgeri threw in three goals in the first half to help distance the Warriorbills. Seniors Dennis Burke and Chris Ahner each scored their first goals of the year. Sophomore face-off technician Doug Berkeley also scored his first of the year in the fourth, after being run into the ground over the previous three.

Berkeley was overjoyed with the team's performance and the rush of scoring a varsity goal. "A

1989 Mitsubishi with Mighty Max pickup, the car I always wanted. And now I have it. I rule!" he was heard to exclaim as he pumped his fist straight into the air.

With the regular season all wrapped up, the Laxbills are gearing up for the playoffs. Their first game will be against the winner of the CBC-Webster play-in, and the game will take place Monday night either in the Stadium or at Compton Drew. The game will be the biggest game of the year and promises to be exciting. Fan support could make the difference, so come out and have a good time.



Dan Hopmann cradles as two Lindbergh players close in.

Bills responded with a 13-1 run of their own, and never looked back. Hof led the team with five goals, while junior Travis Dum netted three.

One of the game's highlights came on a goal late in the fourth quarter. Senior Captain Joe Bartel, a long-pole defenseman turned shortstick attackman, showed his offensive prowess with a sharp goal. After a dead ball, a SLUH attackman brought the ball around from outside of the offensive box. Streaking in from the wing, the attackman drew two slides on the play. The attackman, who had already

PHOTO BY KEVIN MOORE

by Patrick Meek

Calendar

May 12 - Aug. 21

FRIDAY, MAY 17

Schedule R
AP Latin
V-VOL @ District Tourn

SATURDAY, MAY 18

V-TN @ State Sectionals

MONDAY, MAY 20

Schedule R
So. Bonus Reading Test
Sr. Grades Due
V-LAX vs CBC/Webster @ 4:30pm

TUESDAY, MAY 21

Schedule H

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

Semester Exams

THURSDAY, MAY 23

Semester Exams
V-TN @ State Tourn.

FRIDAY, MAY 24

Semester Exams
V-TN @ State Tourn.
V-Track @ State Meet @ Jefferson City @ 11 am

SATURDAY, MAY 25

Graduation @ Powell Hall @ 4 pm
Senior Lock-In
V-TN @ State Tourn.
V-Track @ State Meet @ Jefferson City @ 10 am

TUESDAY, MAY 28

Track and Field Banquet

FRIDAY, MAY 31

FB Camp Testing

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

Maryknoll Mass and Reception

MONDAY, JUNE 3- FRIDAY, JUNE 7

Drivers' Education
Care Workshop
Basketball Camp
V-Baseball Return Camp

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

St. Matthew's Auction

MONDAY, JUNE 10- FRIDAY, JUNE

14
Walkabout
Summer School
Wrestling Camp

MONDAY, JUNE 17- FRIDAY, JUNE

21
Elementary Basketball Camp
Upward Bound

MONDAY, JUNE 24- FRIDAY, JUNE

30
Elementary Basketball Camp

MONDAY, JULY 8- FRIDAY, JULY

14
Elementary Basketball Camp

MONDAY, JULY 15- FRIDAY, JULY

21
Elementary Basketball Camp
Junior High Jazz Band Camp

MONDAY, JULY 22- FRIDAY, JULY

28
Junior High Jazz Band Camp

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

Senior Advisor Training @ 9 am

MONDAY, AUGUST 12

Fall Sports Begin

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14- FRI-

DAY, AUGUST 16
Freshman Direction Days

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

Ambassador BBQ @ 4pm

MONDAY, AUGUST 19- TUESDAY,

AUGUST 20
Freshman Direction Days
New Teachers Meeting

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

Department Head Meeting
Freshman Orientation
Back to School Dinner @ 5pm @ Alumni Park

ALBATROSS

(from 14)

-ditions for the first day were pretty bad."

Bantle said, "Both Andy (Schumert) and Joe (Sharamitaro) had really solid years. They helped carry the team to its best record in years in dual matches. We only had one loss, and we beat good teams like Borgia, Chaminade, and DeSmet."

"It's too bad we didn't make it to the state tournament as a team. We could have had a great chance to win," continued Bantle. Indeed, some of the area teams in different districts who qualified for the state tournament seemed less deserving than the Jr. Bills. SLUH shot an impres-

sive 303 in districts, yet the Jr. Bills still failed to qualify for the state tournament as a team. Coming out of a different district, Hazelwood Central shot a much higher 360 at the state tourney.

As Bantle looks forward to next year, he knows this team will be difficult to replace. "Pat Robert led the team this year in scoring average and medals," said Bantle. "That will be a big loss next year. And then we had Andy (Schumert) and Joe (Sharamitaro) qualify for state. This was just a good team."

(from 15)

and scaring those ahead of him before bowing out on a narrow miss at 5'10".

"Sectionals will be huge," said Heidenry, "and I think there's gonna be a 'Reidrick Skydenry' sighting this weekend." Heidenry placed 5th at Sectionals last season, missing a trip to State by one place.

Sectionals take place tomorrow morning at Parkway South. Festivities begin at 11:00 a.m., and SLUH has the potential to qualify more runners to State than it has in the past few seasons. Don't be left out of the fun.