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Prep News

VOLUME LXVI ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2001 ISSUE 4

13 students named National Merit Semifinalists

Brian Kane
Core Staff

St. Louis U. High has always seemed to have a significantly high number of National Merit students. This year, the number has dropped to thirteen, from nineteen a year ago, but the performance was still commendable.

Every October, sophomores and juniors take the PSAT, a major part of the process that determines who will be honored. The sophomores take the test for several reasons. Having taken the test a year earlier, they will not be as overwhelmed by it or be surprised when it counts more junior year. Another advantage of taking the test a year earlier is the ability to identify areas of academic weakness. The results of the test from a student's sophomore year will allow the student to improve on certain areas or take additional courses so he can improve his score during his junior year.

Once a student is named a Semifinalist, he applies to be a Finalist. The student must fill out an application, which includes writing a paragraph on a given topic. SLUH also has to fill out materials comparable to a transcript. A letter of recommendation from the school is required as well. Once SLUH receives all the information, it is shipped to the College Board for review. The Board goes over the courses a student takes, and it looks at how challenging they are. The letter of recommendation and extracurriculars are also subject to review.

As Guidance Department Chair Dave Mouldon said, "It's not only an honor, but it can become a financial help as well."

Scholarships are a major reward for those who become Finalists. The College Board presents a prestigious award to some finalists, who can also earn corporate scholarships. Many corporations set aside money for children of their employees who score well on the test. If no one qualifies from that area, the corporation may look for a high-scoring student who shows interest in the corporation's field.

The honor of being a National Merit

Finalist also helps to gain scholarships from individual universities. In some cases, the scholarship can pay for the full tuition. Some schools such as Harvard and Yale will not give more money, since they give based on need.

The number of National Merit Semifinalists is directly related to the population of a state. In Missouri, the top half percent of the first percentile in the PSAT are Semifinalists.

see SEMI TRUCK, 4

National Merit Semifinalists

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Dan Becvar | James Kersey |
| Jon Britt | Robert Lachky |
| Scott Chartrand | Kevin Moore |
| Matt Diehr | Joseph Neilsen |
| Ted Feldmeier | Matt Siegel |
| Ryan Glosier | Chris Storey |
| Connor Hagan | |

Sewage stalls SLUH toilets

Tim Piechowski
Core Staff

Sewage is no fun for anyone. Last Friday the bathrooms in all four of the main hallways of the school were closed due to a sewage leak emanating from a sewer on the south side of the building near the cafeteria loading dock.

Vice President of Administration Brian Sweeney explained that the questionable drain was capped off for construction purposes this summer and then reconnected at the end of the summer, in order to handle the needs of the building during school hours.

This particular sewage leak was not discovered until last Friday, but Sweeney said the school has "had problems with this sewer before." During renovations in 1994-'95, workers discovered a minor leak in the pipe by probing the sewer line

with a camera. But at the time the damage was too small to worry about. In addition, Sweeney said, "There have been occasional backups (in the sewer), but nobody knew the reason because there were no recent videos of the pipe."

He said pipe damage is fairly common on the campus due to the high amount of clay in the ground. The clay has a tendency to settle, which can put holes in the sewage lines. This, in addition to the fact that the pipe is made of cast iron, is probably why it failed.

Construction workers who were toiling over the basement excavation were the first to start the cleanup of the spilled sewage. Sweeney called the school's plumbing contractor, Frank-Mitchell, to repair the piping. Their workers permanently capped off the old pipe and installed a new line with a PVC pipe to

see MANHOLE, 6

Faculty unofficially debates weighted grades

Dan Butler
Reporter

It has proved to be a challenging question, one that incites debate and brings about uncertainty. Many feel that something needs to be done, although there seems to be no clear-cut solution to the problem of whether or not to weight grades at SLUH.

A variety of teachers have their own solutions to this problem, and many hold strong opinions on the topic. There are pros and cons to both the unweighted system SLUH currently abides by and a possible new weighted system that some hope for.

Probably the biggest factor in the debate over weighting is the incentives it would offer students in AP courses or any other advanced courses that would carry weight. Should students be compensated for taking more challenging classes?

Many think that with the added incentive of the ability to obtain a higher grade, students would be challenging themselves for the wrong reasons. "It is

the student's decision to enroll themselves in AP courses in order to learn, not to obtain higher grades," explains AP Physics teacher Paul Baudendistel.

"It's all a matter of equity," counters counselor Ken McKenna. "At this point it seems more fair to give students a reward for taking on a demanding schedule."

Another problem that could arise from weighting would be unqualified students registering for AP classes in the hopes of bumping up their GPA. Although some faculty members feel this is a legitimate worry, counselors Dave Mouldon and Ken McKenna believe they have a good solution—a "gatekeeper"-type system. Mouldon explains, "If all advanced courses would adhere to the Honors English standard (where prerequisites and teacher recommendations are needed to be placed in the class), then there would not be a problem of unqualified students taking the AP classes."

Most everyone is aware of how much influence GPA and class rank have on college admissions officers. Mouldon conducted a survey of top selective

colleges last year, concluding that most colleges are aware of both the difficulty of SLUH and the fact that our GPAs are unweighted. "All colleges deal with grades and class rankings in their own way," he says, meaning that while some weight a student's GPA on their own, others take previously weighted grades and recalculate them on the standard 4.0 scale.

The controversy seems to be in the area of scholarships rather than admissions. While the class rankings are already adjusted in order to allow for ties at a certain rank, they currently do not account for any type of advanced classes. A student taking every AP class available and getting a lower GPA is still placed behind a student taking all "normal" courses who has a slightly higher GPA, while if the courses were weighted, the rankings would be reversed.

Mouldon agrees that while "College admissions officers are aware of this, (some) scholarship committees won't change their criteria." This means that rankings are very relevant topics when **see HEAVYWEIGHTS, 6**

Dulac recovers after summer stem cell transplant

Peter Segrist
Reporter

As the 2000-'01 school year was winding down last spring, then-sophomore Chris Dulac's mind was focused on the stem cell transplant he would undergo in a few short weeks. Having endured roughly 18 months of chemotherapy prior to the procedure, Dulac prepared for the critical day that would determine his future.

Dulac was diagnosed with T-cell lymphoma after his doctors found a tumor in his chest in August of 1999. T-cell lymphoma is a type of cancer which, after infecting the first few initial infection-fighting white blood cells of the body's immune system, spreads to all other white blood cells, forcing them to take on an atypical nature as cellular reproduction occurs.

As Dulac knowledgeably points out,

the procedure performed on him was a stem cell transplant, in which there is "no surgical harvest of stem cells from the bone"—somewhat different from a bone marrow transplant. In a bone marrow transplant, there is an actual harvest of stem cells through operation. In a stem cell transplant however, the donor—in Chris's case, his brother Jason—is given a drug in order to induce hyperactive production of stem cells within the bone marrow itself. These excess stem cells then flow into the blood stream, at which time they are transplanted intravenously from donor to recipient.

The procedure, originally planned for June 7, was performed one week later, on the 14th. Dulac remained in the hospital for three weeks in order to give his immune system a chance to recuperate and his body an opportunity to begin producing the newly introduced blood cells. He was released from the hospital to return home

in early July. His release was "amazingly quick," according to Dave Mouldon, Dulac's counselor here.

Following the procedure was a period of roughly 100 days during which it is important for the patient to remain at home in a relatively low-bacteria environment in order to give the immune system a good chance to redevelop. According to President Paul Sheridan, S.J., who has been in direct contact with the Dulac family about every ten days, Chris "is just coming out of the critical hundred days and seems to be doing very well."

Mouldon also described Dulac as being in "really good spirits." Commenting on the support of his family, Mouldon described Chris's mother, Jennie, as "a true jewel" who has "really been there for him."

Even with SLUH's difficult curriculum, Dulac has somehow managed **see DULAC, 12**

COMMENTARY

KANE RESPONDS TO HARRISON'S PRAYER SERVICE

Brian Kane
Core Staff

This week, Fr. Harrison gave a prayer service which nearly every SLUH student attended. During his prayer service, Harrison discussed what has quickly become one of the top debates in the world—is it right for the United States to militarily respond to attacks against it?

In his ten minutes, Harrison laid down one point after another against war. By the end of his talk, it seemed as if any good Christian would be morally wrong to support military responses to the World Trade Center bombings. But as I walked out of the chapel that morning, the whole thing just didn't make sense to me. Maybe it was because I had yet to fully wake up, but as the day went on, and I discussed it with friends and a few faculty members, I became more aware of my opinions.

One of Harrison's first points was that President Bush has said that we are at war. He held a copy of the Constitution high in the air saying that Bush didn't have the power to declare war, and only Congress could do so. I fully agree with that statement. It's a fact that only Congress can declare war, and of course the President can't do it single-handedly. But has Bush declared war? Or is he merely trying to invoke patriotism into the minds and hearts of Americans? This war that Bush has "declared" is not a war on Afghanistan, nor is it a war on Osama Bin Laden. It is a war on terrorism. Terrorism is an abstract thing, and the country is fighting it just as each individual fights the temptation to do what is wrong. Then again, by the argument given against Bush's statement, one could criticize any president who has said that we're fighting a war against drugs. "Drugs" in that sense is also an abstraction, and the statement is a metaphor, just like Bush's.

Another major part of Harrison's speech was the comparison of September 11 to the day of the Oklahoma City bombing.

He noted that Americans didn't demand bombing raids on Michigan when we learned that Timothy McVeigh committed the crime. And rightly so, no action was taken against the state of Michigan. Did they commit a crime by raising a young man who at some point in his life would snap? This is why we haven't retaliated against Afghanistan by now. We are being fair in giving them the benefit of the small doubt. When we have conclusive proof that Osama Bin Laden was responsible for this, the country will be asked to turn him over. At that point, if they refuse, they are more or less saying that they agree with and support what he did, which makes them just as guilty. At that point, they would knowingly be harboring a murderer.

Harrison also noted that the people who sold McVeigh fertilizer or gasoline for his truck weren't arrested. They weren't arrested because they had no knowledge that they were indirectly aiding a crime. If that's the angle we should look at, then I'd like to know why the CEOs of United Airlines and American Airlines and the company that made the terrorists' knives aren't standing trial. I'd also like to know why we haven't shut down the flight school in Florida. Any sensible person can see that none of that has happened because those people aren't guilty, as they had no idea of the intentions of the hijackers-to-be.

It is my belief that there was no stopping those hijackers. They committed an act which they knew had no other outcome than their own deaths, and there are plenty more out there with the same mindset. When someone is so determined to do something that their own life isn't important to them, trying to negotiate is just a waste of time.

Finally, there is of course the cliched "turn the other cheek" argument. To my knowledge, the Catholic Church has no problems with self defense. On Tuesday, people slipped through what we thought was impenetrable security. We shouldn't point fingers at each other for that one. If we turn the other cheek and it happens again, the blood of those victims is on all of our hands.

REA, '01, RESPONDS TO CRITICISM OF HOMEWORK

Dear Anonymous '04,

Guess what? Your homework load will not change, you have to adapt and make the transition to handle the work. Making that transition is what prepares you for college. Preparing you for college is one of SLUH's jobs, hence the term "college preparatory school." The reason curved grades aren't given in the first week is because your freshman year was your period to make the transition from grade school into SLUH. In college you do not get a transition period. You get a piece of paper on the first day of classes with all of your assignments on it for the semester. You are required to read the textbook, write the papers, do other assignments, and have them all turned in when they need to be.

If you are late or cannot finish it, the teachers say "too bad". The other thing about high school is that in your classes, it's a blessing in disguise to have a lot of graded assignments. The more grades you receive in a class, the less damage it does to your overall grade if you fail one of those assignments. Once you make the transition during your sophomore year, the rest of high school is much easier. Sophomore year is a make or break year for a lot of students.

I became overwhelmed, and dug myself into a very large hole with low grades, while other students managed their time, handled the workload, and made SLUH a much easier ride for themselves.

Brien Rea '01

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST CLUB PLANS STARBUCKS LEAFLETING

To the Editor:

The Democratic Socialists Club will be participating in a global week of action against Starbucks this weekend on Saturday, Sept. 22 in the Delmar Loop and on Sunday, Sept. 23 at two different locations in Clayton. This campaign is the largest ever launched by a consumer advocacy group in the United States, and promises to be the first of several events that the Democratic Socialists will be involved in this year.

Starbucks extensively uses rBGH in its dairy products, a bovine growth hormone that St. Louis's own Monsanto created for the purpose of increasing the amount of meat and milk that can be extracted from one cow. This hormone has been associated with higher risks of cancer in humans. Our group demands that Starbucks remove rBGH and all potentially harmful genetically engineered ingredients from its food. Starbucks also refuses to seriously promote Fair Trade coffee and work to improve the wages and working conditions of their coffee plantation workers in Guatemala and other nations. The harvest of Fair Trade coffee, as it is called, is monitored by a third party organization to ensure that laborers are not abused, subjected to inhumane working conditions, or have their wages stolen. While Starbucks does

offer Fair Trade coffee as well as organic coffee (coffee which is free from genetically engineered or otherwise unnatural ingredients), these products account for only one tenth of one percent of their coffee sales. While Starbucks insists that the availability of Fair Trade and organic coffee is not such that they can seriously promote these products, outside research has shown this to be untrue. Our group demands that Starbucks begin to seriously promote these products and work to genuinely improve the wages and working conditions of the poor Hispanic people who harvest their coffee.

If you would like to help push these demands forward on Starbucks, feel free to assist our club in leafletting the above mentioned Starbucks locations. Just see Father Harrison or a club member for details. If you cannot help with leafletting, you can help by refusing to buy Starbucks' products until they meet our demands and by writing letters or making phone calls to tell them that you are doing so. For more information, visit www.organicconsumers.org, where you can also sign an online petition.

The Democratic-Socialists Club

SEALS RESPONDS TO TUESDAY'S ATTACKS

My Fellow Classmates,

I cannot describe the feeling I had inside me when I watched CNN Tuesday morning, and watched the "secure" world I have always lived in disappear. Seeing the airliner streak across the New York skyline, then bury itself in an explosion of glass and flame as it struck the World Trade Center, is an image I will never forget, no matter how hard I try. How can one imagine a living person intentionally planning such a merciless attack on innocent civilians, going about their daily lives? This was not an act of war against a military force, as Pearl Harbor was. This was an action against Americans, simply because they live in a civilized, humane country that prides itself on freedom.

Thursday afternoon, news of another event struck me beyond belief. This event was not the evacuation of the Capitol, but rather the rally being held on Friday, encouraging people to sign

SEMI TRUCK

(from 1)

Those students who managed to receive a very high score without making the cutoff are sent letters of commendation for their efforts.

In the Class of 2002, 14 members were named as National Merit Semifinalists. Of those, 13 of them are still present at SLUH. 22 students were commended. While the number is low compared to other years, SLUH was tied for 5th in the state. Bannister was still happy with the results. As he said, "If you live by the numbers, you die by the numbers."

a petition against violent action towards the terrorists. Who could sign such a petition, I do not know. I wonder, with no success, how these rally members suggest we put an end to terrorism, and an end to the death and destruction that ultimately results from such acts of evil. I do not believe striking back at a time such as this is immoral, or going against Catholic belief. Self-defense is no sin. I would feel no remorse for the destruction of the evil in men like Osama Bin Laden, men who would kill fathers, mothers, husbands, and wives, simply because they live in America.

I know and pray that the United States of America will pull through such dark times as this, and I pray that we will not turn on each other, over matters such as military action. I pray for everyone in this country, and I know God will lead us through this dark cloud to the light that is always there. God Bless America.

Christopher Seals, '04

Quote o' the Week

"No man is a true believer until he wants for his brother what he wants for himself."

—al-Sunnah

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

STOREY REITERATES IMPORTANCE OF PEACEFUL RESPONSE TO ATTACK

To the Editor:

Last Tuesday's indiscriminating act of terrorism was cowardly, unjustifiable, and evil. I am just as saddened, frightened, and angry at this tragedy as any other American, but I am also saddened, frightened, and angry at the response that I have seen from the American people.

Americans all over are calling for blood, and demanding "justice." There has been talk of the United States bombing Afghanistan and other nations where anti-American terrorists may reside. President Bush made it clear that the United States will "make no distinction" between the terrorists who did this and the country that harbors them. If we take this course of action and launch a campaign of violence against Afghanistan or any other nation, innocent civilians will end up dead, wounded, or missing just as they did here in America after the attack against the World Trade Center. I fear that, as Andy Neilsen pointed out in last week's issue, America is adopting the same attitude that drove the fanatics who perpetrated this awful crime. We cannot allow any more innocent people to die as a result of this mess, even if they happen to be Arab Muslims instead of white Christians.

If we don't respond to this tragedy with violence, then what do we do? I submit to the people of this country that even if we were to eliminate every single terrorist on Earth tomorrow, the threat to American lives would still remain. It would not be long before America's violent, unsympathetic foreign policy would provoke the formation of new terrorist organizations with the same goals as the ones who threaten the citizens of this country today. President Bush called this catastrophe "an attack on freedom," and I feel that this is a gross oversimplification. Are we really expected to believe that these terrorists decided that they were going to launch an assault against American civilians because they despise the ideals of freedom and democracy? I strongly desire freedom, and they have been deprived of it for decades by the United States and other Western countries who intervene in their affairs and use violence to impose a pro-Western, pro-corporate agenda on the Third World. The United States endorses the violent suppression of Palestinians by the state of Israel, bombs Iraq on a daily basis, and exploits the workers and the environment of Arab nations by way of "free trade" agreements and even outright violence. Our country needs to halt its violent, exploitive, and interventionist foreign policy and work towards building peace and social justice in the Middle East and all over the world. The United States needs to re-evaluate its foreign policy and how it affects the rest of the world. People all over the world need our sympathy, compassion, and prayers. They don't need our bombs.

Chris Storey, '02

GAU ADVOCATES PATRIOTIC RESPONSE TO TERRORIST ATTACK

To the Editor:

September 11th, 2001 was a date which will live in infamy deep within the hearts of all Americans, but especially within the hearts of the relatives of the victims of these tragedies. As horrible a day as it was, and as angry as those terrorists made me, the response of my country made me so proud to be an American. One example of the drastically increased sense of patriotism was the outpouring of blood donations. Personally, I attempted to donate blood three times on Tuesday. Twice I was turned away because the buildings were filled to capacity and the third time I was informed there was a five-hour wait.

I have tremendous confidence in President Bush and our entire government and their ability to continue to lead the country through this time of chaos and to bring those responsible for the tragedies of Tuesday to justice. The goal of the terrorists was to weaken our country, but I think they failed. I am confident that our country is now stronger because of what happened on Tuesday. Out of this incident, I have gained a newfound respect for our flag and all that it represents. I pray that God is with the victims of these tragedies, their families, the rescuers, the terrorists and the leaders of our government. This has been a wake up call, and the United States can't hit the snooze button; we must rise up together and stand up for our freedom.

Mike Gau, '02

This Week in Prep News History

Sep. 21, 1979 Volume 44 Number 4

Exams for Freshman

"This past week the class of '83 was indoctrined into an established SLUH tradition: Mid-Quarter Freshman Exams. The grades are not placed on the student's permanent transcript, and have no effect on his grade point average."

Sep. 16, 1988 Volume 53 Number 4

From the Forum page: SLUH Should Hire Security Guards

"I suggest that SLUH hire off-duty police to patrol the area in question (between Kingshighway-Berthold) for an hour before school begins and an hour after classes let out." -Steven Aylward

Week 4: Date Unknown

SLUH Juniors featured on Letterman

"Mark Gunn, Mike Hamtil, and other members of homeroom 206 came up with the idea of Hal Gurnee day, in which juniors came to school dressed in Hal's Garb . . . Hal Gurnee, producer of *Late Night* wears the same outfit every night: a blue shirt, tan chinos, and brown loafers . . . Ms. Whealon took a picture at noon rec. . . the picture was included in the tape of that night's show."

HEAVYWEIGHTS

(from 2)
discussing weighted grades. Admissions officers are aware of the fact that our ranks carry no weight, and while most students can rest assured that their college of choice will take the weighting factor into account, it is still somewhat of a gray area. Many scholarship committees refuse to take into account weighted versus unweighted rank when it comes down to categories like top ten percent of the class.

Some teachers, such as science teacher Charlie Busenhart, think that the situation is already taken care of: "Lower grading scales in classes such as Acceler-

ated Chemistry take into account the difficulty of the class," he said dryly.

Baudendistel feels that any weighting would be unnecessary because grades are already "slanted in favor of the student," echoing Busenhart's point about the lower grading scales and pointing out that rankings that allow ties are already in effect.

English teacher Rich Moran and Fine Arts teacher Mary Whealon, along with Baudendistel, Busenhart, and others, all feel that a major difficulty would be deciding which classes to weight.

Both counselors and teachers wor-

ried that, if grades for AP classes were weighted, students in non-AP classes might be more likely to take their classes less seriously.

Recently, Math Department Chairman Tom Becvar ran data on the top thirty-five students in the current senior class, adding weight for any AP classes taken. While no one's rank changed drastically, there was some shifting of positions.

A good example would be the student currently ranked twenty-eight, good enough for top 10.6 percent in the senior class. He has a GPA of 3.83, but because of his schedule, his new weighted rank would move him up to number twenty-one. This shift may not seem significant, but it would be sufficient enough to place this student within the top ten percent, a criterion required by numerous scholarships.

Despite the fact that weighting is an important topic, no faculty vote on the subject has been attempted in over seven years. No change seems imminent, as the new data leaves both Becvar and Director of Admissions Mark Michalski on uncertain ground. Becvar explains that he "can see the positives on both sides, but right now it's hard to decide which way to go."

Michalski adds that he would like to see more data before any kind of change would be implemented.

MANHOLE

(from 1)
ensure no future problems. It will cost the school about \$5,000 for the new sewer line. Administrators expect no further contract-related problems after the new pipe is completed.

Sweeney estimates the only other damage to the construction area is to the asphalt, as a result of the heavy machinery used for the excavation there. The area will be repaved after all of the excavation work is complete. On the excavation and construction, Sweeney said, "We are just about ready to close up the penetration in the wall."

Security responds to Tuesday

Matt Hoffman
Core Staff

At about 7:45 a.m. on Tuesday, September 11, United Airlines Flight 11 struck the World Trade Center, shortly followed by another plane. Before the day was out, the Pentagon was attacked in similar fashion, and another plane crashed outside of Pittsburgh.

Immediately following these terrorist attacks, SLUH security performed a perimeter check around the entire school, headed by Charlie Clark, director of security.

"We went around looking for any objects out of place," said Clark, "The entire school, every floor." Security paid special attention to the alley parking lot and construction site. Security "checked every car in the alley and street," said Clark. Clark also personally checked the construction site for pipe bombs.

In addition, extra guards were called in to be stationed at the Oakland gate and at the alley door.

"The guards required anyone entering the campus to explain what they were doing," said Clark. Any package coming into the school was checked personally by Clark.

"Some people may see (security's reactions) as overreacting, but bomb threats were called into New York. This was a

national emergency," said Plant Manager Patrick Zarrick following last Tuesday's security procedures.

Zarrick had already been collaborating with Clark to revise old emergency procedures before last Tuesday's events. Clark has been trying to "streamline" the emergency procedures.

"We're trying to get it as smooth as possible," said Clark, who has been revising the procedures since the beginning of the year. The old procedures required numerous people to be notified before any action could be taken. The new procedure allows designated people to take immediate action, including possible lockdowns or evacuations. "It's an ongoing refining process," noted Clark. "We have to be prepared for every possible disaster."

Currently, however, SLUH does not have a national emergency procedure. Zarrick and Clark are working to draft a procedure which would be based on the actions Clark took on Tuesday to secure the safety of the school.

The solid security effort, although not the primary reason for keeping students in school, factored into the decision made by Bannister and other faculty members. Zarrick summed up the decision by saying, "We felt that we had taken enough security precautions to keep school in session."

Soccerbills win two to improve to 5-3-1

Team can't score in 1-0 loss to DeSmet

Pat Steinway
Reporter

Even with the tragedy of last Tuesday's terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., the sports world had to go on, and that it did last weekend when the Jr. Bills soccer team played against a tough DeSmet team. The week before, the two teams had played to a 0-0 tie, with neither team getting many opportunities to win the game.

Friday night's game in no way compared to the previous DeSmet-SLUH game, as both teams had many chances to run up the score. However, only one goal was scored, and unfortunately that goal was by DeSmet's Mark Taylor. Taylor dribbled down the right side of the field with Ian Mulligan in close pursuit and slid a low shot by goalie Steve Howenstein. "It was a good goal," said backup goalie Mike Kutz.

After falling behind 1-0, the Jr. Bills had several great opportunities to tie the game. Along with a couple of corner kicks, SLUH forwards hit the post a few times, but they never could actually score.

After the tough loss, the team knew they would have to quickly focus on Saturday night's game and release their offensive frustration then.

The Soccerbills showed their offensive prowess against the helpless St. Dominic team by scoring a season-high four goals. Dan Hartwig netted two goals, Tom Winkler added a goal, and Kyle Banahan scored his first goal ever as a Jr. Bill.

Despite losing 4-1, the St. Dominic

soccer team made it quite an interesting game. In what seemed to be a purposeful act, a St. Dominic player took defender Kurt Fiehler down from behind, injuring his knee. After that, tempers started flaring

as junior Tim Baldes was given a yellow card for retaliating against the player who injured Fiehler.

Mulligan was later given a yellow card for what he said was pulling a St. Dominic player's shirt. After the game, Mulligan said, "Even though we won, I am

still upset about Kurt's knee. There was no need for that." Fiehler now sports a knee brace and is out indefinitely.

Ending the week at .500, the team looked to play an unknown Jefferson City
see **NET**, 12



A SLUH player heads the ball wide on a corner kick in Friday's game against DeSmet.

Hancock awaits Harrierbills on Saturday

Brian Gilmore
Reporter

Entering the Paul Enke Invitational at Sioux Passage last Saturday, the XC-Bills anxiously awaited their chance to run with the best in the area. However, they never got the chance to chase after the first place trophy they were looking for.

In the warm-up jog before the race, Pat Leinauer came up short on his ankle, and was held out of the meet to prevent any further injury. Having battled an illness all week, John Parr was unable to finish, momentarily blacking out near the halfway mark of the race.

Already without Tipper O'Brien and Andy Skoksy, none of the four returning runners from last year's state team were left in the mix. However, the remaining varsity, led by new number one man Kyle Gonnerman, stepped up and prevented what could have been a disastrous day.

Paced by Gonnerman's 19th place

finish (17:45), SLUH's pack placed high enough to finish third out of a field that exceeded twenty varsity teams. DeSmet, at full strength, took a commanding victory, and Springfield Kickapoo narrowly edged out the Junior Bills for second.

When asked about being the number one runner on the team, Gonnerman simply said, "It feels pretty good. I was only trying to stick with Schaefer; I had no idea that I was going to be our top finisher."

Tipper O'Brien, the number one runner for much of last season, said, "Kyle should take some serious pride in being number one on this team. It's a really big deal, and he should enjoy the feeling and try to hold the position for as long as he can."

Rounding out the varsity at Sioux Passage were Peter Schaefer, Drew Noblot, sophomore Andrew Linhares, and Kevin Crean. These four finished within 30 seconds of each other, locking up a very respectable third place trophy.

Continuing their undefeated season, the JV team again overcame the absence of many key runners to defeat DeSmet and Parkway West and handily grab the win. Geoff Stewart, happy to be back running again in his first race after overcoming a bout with mono, finished in 4th place (18:46), with Matt Killiany, Kevin Mills, Boyd Gonnerman, and Sean McDonald rounding out the scoring five.

In the sophomore race, SLUH finished second behind a very talented group from Fort Zumwalt South. With Linhares up in the varsity race, the burden fell on Brennan Connor to lead the team. Connor performed beautifully on the tough course, running an 18:30, good enough for 6th place.

"Without Andrew, I knew I would have to step it up and set my own pace if we were to do well as a team," Connor said, "and I'm very happy that we were able to run so well. That course really is rough, though. My quads were burning
see, **POWERWALK**, 8

Footbills defeat Chaminade in first MCC match

John Stewart
Reporter

Despite the terrorist attacks last Tuesday, the Jr. Bills' football season continued as Chaminade traveled to the stadium last Friday night for their MCC opener. Before the start of the game, the players, coaches, and fans participated in a prayer and a brief moment of silence to honor all of the people involved in the tragedies.

"It was nice to have such a good crowd on hand pay their respects to the men, women, and children who perished last Tuesday in New York and Washington D.C.," said head coach Gary Kornfeld.

Soon after, the fans extinguished their candles, and the players prepared to play in an important conference match up.

The early part of the game was reminiscent of the first two games of the season, in that the Footbills got off to a fast start.

The Jr. Bills wasted no time in getting a quick lead; on just the third play from scrimmage, quarterback Dossie Jennings, who completed 8 of 12 passes for 200 yards and 2 touchdowns on the night, hooked up with Tim Boyce on a ten-yard pattern across the middle. Boyce avoided tacklers as he burst towards the sideline. After outrunning the secondary, he flew down the field and into the end zone for an 80-yard touchdown. Brad Johnson's PAT was successful and gave the Jr. Bills an early 7-0 lead.

"Dossie hit me in stride and (Brad) Drakesmith made a huge block," said Boyce. "After that it was nothing but daylight."

The defense came to play as always against the Flyers. Linebackers Craig Schlappizzi and Joe Finney dominated Chaminade's running attack, combining for 26 tackles and 5 assists. Good interior line play by juniors Kevin Steffens, Phinney Troy, and Chris Price allowed the linebackers to run free to the ball carriers all night.

For the rest of the first quarter and the

better part of the second quarter, the U. High offense moved the ball fairly well, but penalties kept the unit from putting any more points on the board.

"We need to cut down on the penalties," said Kornfeld. "However, it is nice to be 3-0 and say that there is room for improvement."

With less than four minutes to go in the first half, the Jr. Bills put together a mistake-free drive and attempted to go up by two touchdowns. With 2:39 to go, Chris Finney took the handoff from Jennings and ran outside off the left tackle. As soon as he made it through the first line of defense, he ran unscathed into the end zone from 14 yards out to put the Jr. Bills up 13-0. The PAT by Johnson was no good, and the Footbills went into the locker room with a 13-point lead.

It was the Flyers' turn to receive as both teams came out to start the second

half. Needing to put some points on the board, Chaminade came out aggressively, but the SLUH defense remained strong. With excellent open field tackling, the Footbills were able to hold the Flyers on third down, and the Flyers were forced to punt. Chaminade's punter boomed a low kick to Mike Pettit, who



Mike Klevorn undercuts the Chaminade quarterback while Mike Pettit races to cover.

gave the Jr. Bills good field position with a 16-yard return.

Key catches by Brad Drakesmith and Joe Devine, who had 5 catches for 94 yards, propelled the offense down the field. The team has had good red-zone efficiency so far this season, and this game was no different. From four yards out, Jennings powered his way up the middle into the end zone, marking his third consecutive game with at least one rushing touchdown. Jennings hooked up

see **FIG, 11**

POWERWALK

(from 7)

like none other coming up Manmaker the second time."

With Sioux Passage out of the picture until Sectionals in late October, the team shifts its attention to this weekend's prestigious Hancock Invitational. It's the biggest invitational of the year, and is run on a championship-style course at Jefferson Barracks Park. Teams come from all around the state, and state powerhouse West Plains has a history of racing there.

The varsity race will be stacked with serious talent and large numbers, but the Harrierbills again have their eyes set on the top. With another week to heal their wounds, Parr and Leinauer are ready to go and the entire team is fired up to compete.

"We're going to have a lot of fun out

there," foretold Gonnerman.

When asked what he'll be doing in what will likely be his last race as a spectator, O'Brien said, "I'll be on a rampage out there, runnin' around cheering everybody on. I don't know what the meteorologists are calling for, but I'm forecasting the SLUH XC boys to be stirrin' up quite a storm!"

If your idea of cross country is a bunch of scantily clad runners racing around an empty park, you're only half right. The garb remains the same, but you'd be shocked at how many people turn out to SoCo's own Jefferson Barracks for this meet.

The JV race begins at 10:15, and the Varsity race kicks off at 12:00. For more, log on to the new home of SLUH XC, www.sluh.org/xc/xc.htm.

Neighbor of SLUH junior survives tower attacks

Kevin Whitehead was on the 56th floor when the planes struck

Editors' Note: Although this feature involves the SLUH community only tangentially, the Editors felt it was powerful enough to merit inclusion.

Rico Bertucci
Reporter

On Tuesday September 11, just about the time SLUH junior Phil Rodriguez crossed the Missouri border on his way to zero hour, I hit the snooze button on my alarm clock and our neighbor Kevin Whitehead, 33, of Belleville stepped out on an elevator onto the 56th floor of Tower Two of the World Trade Center. Less than two hours later Whitehead, on his second day of a business trip, would find himself in the midst of what would be the largest terrorist attack on American soil.

Whitehead and his boss were in a meeting when a screaming sound "like the fighter jets at the VP Fair air show" interrupted them. "Then I heard what I thought was a sonic boom," recalls Whitehead. "Outside the window we could see flames and smoke coming from all around. Tons of papers were sucked out of the building. It looked like it was snowing."

Back in Belleville, Whitehead's wife, Lisa, had just driven their daughter Lindsey to Blessed Sacrament elementary school. Her morning plans of cleaning, grocery shopping, and taking her daughter Lauren to preschool drastically changed after a frantic phone call from her husband. He told Lisa that a bomb had gone off in the other building, but reassured her that he was okay. Lisa Whitehead remembered, "I thought it was a joke, then I realized by the tone in his voice that it wasn't." She received a second phone call shortly after the first, saying that Whitehead was going to evacuate. She heard women screaming in the background as they witnessed victims jumping from the first tower. Just after hanging up, she flipped on the TV and watched, horrified, as the second plane collided with center floors of Tower Two. She recalled the moment saying, "my heart sank to the ground." She remembers talking to a family member: "I said I knew he was dead." After her initial reaction, her next thoughts were, "If I don't hear from him, I need to find some way to get there."



Whitehead and his aunt embrace after his return from his harrowing experience in New York.

Whitehead recounted a public announcement inside his building proclaiming that Tower 2 was secure, followed by a second announcement that said Tower 2 *appears* to be secure. Whitehead, a Morgan, Stanley, Dean Witter & Co. trainer, summed up his thoughts by saying, "The word "appears" is often used when someone doesn't know what he's talking about." He knew then that he wanted to get out of there. After calling home, Whitehead and his boss headed for the stairwell. Just as he reached for the doorknob, the jet crashed into his building. He

remembers almost losing his footing but not quite falling and not quite being able to reach the doorknob. He saw ceiling tiles falling in behind him and hurried into the stairwell.

The stairwell became incredibly crowded but remained amazingly orderly. Things were tense but there was no pushing or panicking. Some women were falling on the steps, so on every landing he could see a pile of high-heeled shoes. People were helping each other. A sort of system developed on the way down. "When things got backed up and we needed to stop to avoid a domino effect someone down below would yell out hold on and it would get passed by everyone all of the way up. In a little while you would hear go and this would get passed up," explained Whitehead.

Although witnessing the scene first hand, Whitehead actually had much less information than we had many miles away. He envisioned that terrorists had planted bombs

and imagined a sequence of one going off about every five floors throughout the building. Because he was so high up and the stairwell traffic was often stopped, he doubted his ability to get out alive. He had tragic thoughts of what his wife and family would have to endure. He wondered if he was spiritually prepared to die. He had thoughts of heaven and wanting to get there. He remembers repeating two prayers over and over with almost every step: "God forgive me for my sins, and God please let me see Lisa and Lindsey and Lauren again." He also remembers thoughts of family, thinking at one point that he was going to mess up his sister's wedding on Saturday with his funeral.

Whitehead took comfort in the fact that it seemed that the stairwell was airtight. It was hot and muggy, so he hoped they

see **WHITEHEAD, 11**

Tuesday, September 11: Three SLUH responses

Andy Neilsen
Editor in Chief

When the World Trade Center collapsed on Tuesday, Sept. 11, most of us watching the news and seeing what happened could only think of the thousands of strangers that would be injured and killed, not pausing to think that our friends or family members would be injured. For some SLUH students and faculty members, however, that thought was much closer than we might think.

Sophomore John Rhoda saw the World Trade Center collapse and at first could not believe his eyes. "At first it doesn't seem real; this stuff only happens in movies," he recalled. Though he did not know where she was at the time of the collapse, Rhoda's sister Mary Grace was in her New York City apartment on 70th street, only a mile from the World Trade Center.

Rhoda's sister is a volunteer teacher at St. Aquinas High School in Brooklyn, though classes had not begun yet. When the buildings collapsed, she was forced to evacuate the city with the nun that was hosting her and three other volunteer teachers that were living together. After leaving the city for two days, returning on Thursday, Rhoda's sister found her apartment filled with rubble, smoke, and dust from the towers. In their haste to leave, they hadn't even had time to close the windows.

The enormity of his sister's danger only hit Rhoda after he had watched the news in class. Rhoda says that this realization "makes (the attack) more personal, not just something that happened in a different part of the country.

"War is basically inevitable," Rhoda said. "We can't let them get away with it."

Rhoda also believes that the U.S. should "punish" those countries who have harbored Osama bin Laden, if he is in fact the perpetrator of the bombings. "(Those countries) know that they are doing wrong," he says.

Faculty members too had loved ones in New York. English teacher Terry Quinn, who noted that he has many friends from Washington University living in New York's financial district, had many people to worry about. Quinn tried calling his friends' cell phones, but almost every line of communication to New York City was down at the time. Luckily for him, a friend who was near the World Trade Center at the time sent e-mails to all the people he knew, periodically telling of the people that he knew were okay.

Quinn recalled the mood in the school when he heard of the attack. He went to the Theology office to watch, remembering that "everyone was silent" when the World Trade Center towers

fell down. Quinn said that the event first became a reality in his mind when he saw the camera shot of the towers burning. The television showed a view from a high building in uptown New York, looking past the Empire State building and onto the towers. "I've seen this view, but never all the rubble," Quinn remembered. One of his friends has an apartment in almost the exact location from which the shot was taken.

Quinn said that he was not immediately worried for his friends, but during the day he kept adding to a list of people that he knew in New York City, hoping that they were not nearby when the planes hit.

In terms of international action, Quinn expressed his difficulty in deciding what an international response should be. "Everything I've believed has always been in non-violence...(but

"There's a confidence we all have that everyone we know is okay, that everything is going fine. For a while there I didn't have that confidence."

in the wake (of the attack) a part of me thought that naive." Quinn explained that he has been opposed to American imperialism and "international bullying," but now does not want to be associated with the victims of this bullying, given the methods that they have resorted to. Quinn says that he is "stuck in the sense that I can't find a solution" to the problem.

Another student, junior John Schrank, had a frightening experience with a relative in the New York area. Schrank's father had been out of town on a business

trip. Because these trips were normal for his dad, Schrank didn't realize that his father could have been in New York when he first saw the news. Ten minutes later, however, Schrank realized that his dad had made plans to visit the financial district of New York. Schrank described himself as "very concerned" when he realized that his dad could have been a victim of the attack. After trying unsuccessfully to contact his mother in St. Louis or his dad's company, Schrank went to the chapel for the prayer service, and stayed there for a while after.

Schrank finally went to the counseling office, where he learned that his dad had actually not been in New York, but was planning to go the next day. Though his dad was not in the area, Schrank certainly felt the effect of such a close call.

He says that his concern about a family member in this incident "definitely altered the way I look at things." Even with his concern about his dad and the danger he feels for the U.S., Schrank is still opposed to bombing countries, though he says he hasn't thought about the possibility of war. Schrank mainly feels that his illusion of security is effectively gone.

"There's a confidence we all have that everyone we know is okay, that everything is going fine. For a while there I didn't have that confidence." No one in the country can disagree with Schrank's sentiment. The only decision left is how to address a proper way to return that confidence.

WHITEHEAD

(from 9)

were safe from drafts that would bring the fire toward them. After several flights of descent he began to notice a faint fuel-like smell which he likened to the smell of jet engine exhaust fumes that enter through the ventilation system when a plane is on the runway. Whitehead began to feel optimistic as he reached the lower floors, but when he reached the mezzanine, saw the flaming debris, broken glass, and smoke and was ushered down to the underground levels of the building, he became uneasy.

One face that he says he will never forget was the face of the young policewoman stationed at the exit into the outside world. She made eye contact with Kevin and directed him to "Move swiftly outside and *do not look up*." Whitehead did exactly as she said and as quickly as possible headed across the street with his boss and kept moving away from the building. He realizes now that if she continued to aid in the evacuation, she probably didn't make it.

Lisa Whitehead had spent almost an hour agonizing over what appeared to be her husband's death when she received good news. Whitehead phoned to tell her that he had made it out and was using the phone of a local shopkeeper. Once again, minutes after Lisa Whitehead said goodbye to her husband, her mood was jolted as she watched Tower One collapse. As she watched the TV she had no idea if Whitehead was near the building. She described feeling like her husband was in an unending struggle: "It was like Kevin was running away from the terrorists but he just couldn't run fast enough."

Whitehead estimates his time evacuating the building at around 40 minutes. He had placed the call to his wife sometime during his walk toward the Hudson River. Whitehead had turned toward the Chelsea Pier to escape the enclosure of the tall buildings; from there he boarded a large dinner cruise ship that was transporting people across the river to New Jersey. Once aboard the ship, at about 2 p.m., he looked back for the first time. He was shocked to see that the twin

towers were gone.

Whitehead described his frame of mind during the evacuation as unemotional, focusing determinedly on the job at hand—surviving. After his brother from Detroit picked him up, his emotions caught up with him. During the trip home, traveling through tunnels was traumatic, and at the fourth tunnel he pulled over and broke down.

A family member awaiting Whitehead's arrival on Thursday said that in a phone conversation Whitehead had said that he just wanted to get back home to see his family and his American Flag.

Family, neighbors and friends all gathered in front of the Whitehead house Thursday around 5:30 pm with banners, signs and balloons. American flags flew up and down the street as we welcomed him home. On his emotional arrival it was obvious that this event would mark his life forever and that he was ecstatic about being alive, returning home, and seeing his family again.

Whitehead's second grader Lindsey, in response to the TV cameras and media attention, asked her dad, "Are you famous?" Lisa Whitehead speculates, however, that Lindsey would like things to be back to normal. Says Lisa, "Right now she would rather ride her bike than watch her dad on TV." The girls, back to playing in the neighborhood, are looking forward to spending time with their dad without having to share him.

Whitehead said that sharing his experience has helped him to deal with it. He describes his survival as a second chance and says that he now has a new outlook on life: "Things that bothered me once won't seem like such a big deal now. I won't get as excited when the kids don't make their bed!" He also described a desire to make every day count: "I will have a new appreciation for every day and will try to live life to its fullest."

Whitehead supports military action against the terrorists, their organization, and people who help them, but wants to avoid the loss of civilian lives.

With all of the intense emotions that Whitehead has experienced since Tuesday,

he is dwelling now not on anger, grief, or details of the attack, but on all of the good that he witnessed around him in the chaos. "I know that New Yorkers might have a reputation of being cold and unfriendly, but they are great and caring people. Everyone was helping everyone else. I am really proud of humanity."



PIG

(From 8)

with Chris Finney on a two-point conversion to give the Jr. Bills a 21-0 lead.

In the fourth quarter, the Jr. Bill offense used ball control to secure the victory. They were able to eat up a significant amount of time running the ball with Jennings and Chris Carter. However, the Flyers were able to get on the scoreboard when Brian Biciocchi scored from one yard out.

After a failed inside kick and a SLUH punt, Mark Duvall secured the victory as he intercepted the quarterback's pass and darted down the sideline and into the end zone for a 69-yard interception return with 11 seconds remaining in the game.

"I saw the quarterback's eyes, anticipated the throw, and made the play" said Duvall.

Duvall's touchdown gave SLUH a 28-7 victory over Chaminade. The team is 3-0 overall and 1-0 in the MCC.

"I was very happy with the victory starting off the MCC schedule," said Kornfeld. "It's always nice to win a game that's played in a playoff-like atmosphere."

The Jr. Bills will continue their conference schedule as they travel to Vianney to play the Griffins tonight at 7:00.

Calendar

September 21-28

by Patrick Meek

FRIDAY, SEPT. 21

Schedule R

Activity Period:

Drake Univ., Univ. of Tulsa

V-FB @ Vianney @ 7pm

JV/V WP @ Varsity Conference Tourney @ MICDS

JV-Soc @ CYC Tournament

C-Soc vs. Granite City @ Compton Drew @ 4pm

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

V/JV/C XC @ Hancock Invitational @ Jefferson Barracks

V-Soc vs. Edwardsville @ 7pm

B-Soc vs. Edwardsville @ 5pm

JV/V WP @ Varsity Conference Tourney @ MICDS

MONDAY, SEPT. 24

Schedule R

Activity Period:

Butler Univ., Christian Brothers Univ., DePaul Univ., Univ. of Illinois, SIU-Carbondale

Wellness Team Meeting @ 215c

V-Soc vs. Duchesne @ Duchesne @ 7pm

B-Soc vs. Duchesne @ Duchesne @ 5pm

TUESDAY, SEPT. 25

Schedule R

Senior Project Meeting

Jr/Sr Lunch:

Duke U., George Washington U. (Sign up in the counseling office)

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26

Schedule R

Freshman Class Liturgy

Activity Period:

Bellarmine Univ., Bradley Univ., Eckerd Col., Knox Col., Marquette Univ., Quincy Univ., SEMS Univ., S. Methodist Univ. Jr/Sr Lunch: Univ. of Notre Dame, Univ. of Kansas (Sign up in the counseling office to attend)

B-FB vs. Hazelwood East @ 4:30pm @ Compton Drew

V-Soc vs. Rockwood Summit @

Rockwood Summit @ 6:30 pm

B-Soc @ Rockwood Summit @ 5pm

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27

Schedule L

Mother/Son Mass @ 7:20 am

Jr/Sr Lunch: DePauw Univ, Univ. of Indiana (Sign up in the counseling office)

C-FB vs. CBC @ 6 pm

C-Soc @ CBC @ 4pm

JV-Soc vs. DeSmet @ Compton Drew @ 4pm

JV/V WP vs. Lindbergh @ Lindbergh @ 4/5 pm

FRIDAY, SEPT. 28

Schedule R

Activity Period:

Benedictine Coll., Cornell Col., Univ. of Dallas, Univ of Denver, Hampton Univ., Loyola Univ.-New Orleans, Purdue Univ., Univ. of Southern California

V-FB @ Mattoon IL @ 7pm

JV-Soc @ Vianney @ 4pm

NET

(from 7)

team on Wednesday. In a game highlighting younger players, the Jr. Bills cruised to a 3-1 win.

Freshman Brent Zang got the game off to a smooth start with a goal in the first half. Sophomore Joe Germanese had a spectacular night, scoring twice, including a goal off a corner kick. Steve Howenstein minded the net for the third straight game. In each game Howenstein has only allowed one goal.

Ian Mulligan received his fourth yellow card of the season when he pulled an opponent's shirt from behind to prevent a breakaway. Mulligan will have to sit out in a future game of the team's choice.

The Soccerbills' next opponent will be nationally ranked Edwardsville. The Jr. Bills will attempt to regain their own national ranking. To have a chance at knocking off the tough Edwardsville team, Kutz said, "Everybody in the whole school needs to come."

DULAC

(from 2)

to keep his head well above water academically, despite battling a life-threatening illness for nearly two years. He has been taking U.S. history online, and he has been in frequent contact with his teachers at SLUH in order to keep up with his classwork. Currently, the plan is for Dulac to graduate on time with the rest of his class by taking a full schedule once he returns to SLUH.

Though he can leave the house, Dulac is presently not supposed to experience prolonged exposure to large groups, although he did make an appearance at last Friday's football game, during which the entire student body chanted his name in order to welcome back the sorely missed fellow student. Mouldon describes Dulac as "very eager to see people."

According to Sheridan, Dulac has "just been through so much, but his spirit is so good." Despite the occasional fever, which sends him for a brief stay in the

hospital, Chris's recovery is moving along very well. Dulac plans on returning to school following semester exams to finish out the second half of his junior year. As he puts it, understandably, "I'm just excited to get back."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention Freshmen: The Freshmen Rifle Club will start next Tuesday and Thursday. For any questions see senior Giles Walsh in Hr. M122.

Freshmen Rifle Club Manager Needed: Must be a sophomore and be able to stay after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-5:30. Contact senior Giles Walsh in Hr. M122 for info.

Rhodes College-Bellingrath Scholarship: up to full tuition and fees. Need minimum 3.8 GPA, 1350+ SAT or 30+ ACT and extensive involvement to be considered. Nomination deadline is November 1.

Due to space restrictions, the *Prep News* will run the ASC article next Friday.