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St. Louis University High School

Prep News

"If nothing else, value the truth."

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Issue 17

New electives introduced for next year

"Progressive overhaul" of science curriculum leads to several new courses

Kevin Moore
Core Staff

Electives: all of the class time in everyone's (especially seniors') schedule which they are allowed to customize on their own. Some request a schedule based on the requirements of the colleges in which they have interest. Others choose a few more classes that interest them. Many find a productive medium between classes taken for pleasure and also for college entrance requirements.

With the introduction of the seven-period day this year and an influx of new courses being offered next year, students will have even more choices when creating their schedules for next year.

Revised course description booklets will be available on Monday from counselors. Most new courses being offered to seniors are science classes, due to a progressive overhaul of the science curriculum over the past few years.

"We are trying to build a core of courses in the first three years, as in math,

so that seniors can choose courses in an area of interest," said Assistant Principal Art Zinselmeyer.

"Next year all freshmen—and only freshmen—will be taking biology," said Zinselmeyer. After offering a full year of biology to freshmen three years ago and, since then, making it a requirement for freshmen to take the full year course, the science department has made it possible for students to take the three core science classes (biology, chemistry, and physics) **see SCIENTOLOGY, 2**

Winter '01 Sisyphus breaks record with 52-page issue

Andrew Ivers
Editor

Next Tuesday, SLUH art lovers will get their first look at what seven of their peers believe is the best literature and art produced by students when *Sisyphus*, SLUH's biannual magazine of literature and art, goes on sale.

"This is going to be the best issue of the three I worked on," said senior editor Pat Kelleher, who served as an editor on both '00 issues.

The Winter '01 issue, at 52 pages, is eight pages longer than the former longest

see OUTBREAK, 8



"Four Animals," a painting by Sean Smith.

Pro-Lifers march to D.C.

Tom O'Brien
Core Staff

Upset with the lack of students in their classes Monday and Tuesday, many teachers asked themselves, "Where is everybody?" The answer: many of the absentees were in the nation's capital, demonstrating their beliefs for the rights of the unborn. Twenty-eight members of SLUH's Pro-Life club were in Washington, D.C., for the annual pro-life march along with approximately fifteen hundred others from the St. Louis region.

see WADE, 8

NHS changes qualification standards

New members are faced with new six month probation period

Patrick Meek
Reporter

For decades the National Honor Society (NHS) has been a model of leadership and service around St. Louis U. High. On Tuesday, the SLUH chapter of the NHS made it more difficult for potential students to become members of the prestigious organization.

The NHS is a national organization that recognizes individuals who exemplify a strong character and academic potential, leadership, and service. The NHS requires its members to have a 3.6 grade point average (GPA) and participate actively in community-based activities.

The SLUH Chapter consists of roughly 40 members, all of whom are

juniors and seniors. NHS is actively involved in tutoring underclassmen who struggle in a particular subject.

For the most part, the rules and bylaws of the SLUH chapter will remain the same as they have in the past several years.

As in the past, sophomore and junior applicants will still have to write essays that "demonstrate their character and service," according to moderator and history teacher Steve Aylward. However, according to a new requirement, when juniors and sophomores are accepted in March, they are accepted only on "probation."

In the next six months, these members are expected to perform at least eight hours of community service and keep their cumulative GPA above 3.6 before

they are admitted as full members. If the applicants achieve this, then—and only then—they will be inducted as full members of the NHS.

Principal Robert Banister said the objective of this new rule is to "give students a period in which to demonstrate commitment to the service." He said that many students have had trouble fulfilling their service obligation during the school year, so they made a point of having the waiting period during the summer.

Membership in the NHS is something "colleges look at as a leadership and service position," counselor Dave Mouldon said.

He also commented that the new NHS requirement shows that students are willing "to go the extra mile" in leadership and service.

SCIENTOLOGY

(from 1)

by the end of junior year.

A survey regarding the new courses, which include AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, and Human Genetics, was given to juniors in their science classes a few weeks ago to see which classes generate the most interest. Although all of the classes will be in the course description booklet, both Zinselmeyer and Science Chair Eric Laboube stressed that not all of the new classes will be offered next year.

"It depends on what the student numbers are, but they all can't work," said Zinselmeyer. "There are a lot of students that still need to take the physics course."

Laboube commented, "Maybe in a couple years all of the new classes will be offered because by then all of our students will have taken biology, chemistry, and physics before their senior year." There will probably not be enough students to potentially offer all of the new courses until the current sophomores, who were required to take the full year biology course freshman year, become seniors.

Science teacher Paul Baudendistel joked that the real reason for the new courses being offered is that "science is trying to take over the entire school."

Although many of the added classes are science courses, there are also a few new courses that others are offering. The fine arts department has added an Advanced Ceramics course which can be taken after the first two ceramics courses.

There are also new prerequisites for a few classes—including printmaking and 3D Design—which include taking two semesters of studio art. "We are trying to develop a course of study for a serious art student," said Zinselmeyer.

The seven-period schedule has made it possible for more students to take the classes. The prerequisites are important because "drawing is the basis for those other media," art teacher Joan Bugnitz said. "The number of students in the courses is going up, so we can no longer give individual students who hadn't already taken the first classes the necessary time and attention to get up to speed in the advanced classes," added Bugnitz.

"Independent instruction in the beginning courses, though, is a given because many students are at different levels and have different backgrounds."

Aside from science and fine arts, there are also two new courses being offered by the history and English departments. AP Psychology will now be taught by Brock Kesterson as a two-semester class which will prepare a student for the AP exam at the end of the year.

Seniors can add Twentieth Century African-American Voices to the multitude of English electives available. "This course generated enough interest in the pre-registration survey given to juniors to be offered," said Zinselmeyer.

Students will soon be making appointments with their counselors to make their schedule requests. Whether choosing courses in order to fulfill college entrance requirements, just for the pleasure of taking the class, or both, the larger amount of courses being offered can only make one wonder what it would be like to add an eighth period to the school day.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Lewis feels mixer controversy to be overblown

To the Editors:

Dancing is sexual. There is nothing which can be done about that fact and dances are always going to contain sexual energy, unless the administration would like to cancel the DJ, set up tables on the dance floor and pat us on the back like a parent would a six year old child. I am not a child and the faculty aren't my parents. I am a Catholic teen and I agree with the Church's teachings on premarital sex. I do not plan on having sex before marriage.

I would agree with concerned faculty members that there is a line that is sometimes crossed. But many members of the administration do not know where to find that line, so I will try to help them.

Let me take the faculty on a time trip. I am confident that when you were a child your parents and elders were concerned with your sexuality and how you expressed that sexuality. I bet that you got angry with your parents when they tried to monitor your behavior to an extensive and ridiculous degree. The student body is in the same position today. You (certain members of the

faculty) are trying to restrict our freedom and many of us (the students) are angry. During slow songs, some students "make out" on the dance floor. This fact goes unnoticed, but when the beat picks up, so do the teachers' radars. I see such kissing as something that should be considered over the line, yet I see it happen quite often at dances.

I do not consider dancing closely to be excessive or raunchy, as some of you seem to, unless explicit sexual motions are being replicated. I think that some dancing—that which looks like sex—should be stopped. However, not all contact or motion is as bad as you make it out to be.

Is there any sex during dances or mixers? No. Is there something that will lead to sex? No. Are some of you blowing this out of proportion? Yes. Is there sexual energy? Yes. I don't believe that dancing leads to sex or increased sexual drive. If anything, it is a release of sexual energy that, if not used on the dance floor, will be used in another place and possibly lead to something more serious. Dancing is harmless fun.

Sincerely,

Michael Lewis '02

Odem addresses mixers from freshman viewpoint

To the Editors,

Hi. I'm a member of the Class of 2004 and I read the editorial about mixers in the January 19, 2001 issue of the *Prep News*. I am happy that you brought this issue to the attention of the student body by placing it in the paper, but I am not happy that the staff is thinking about placing restrictions on mixers or cancelling them. Most of my fellow Jr. Bills know that I really enjoy mixers, and I think all Jr. Bills would be very upset to see restrictions placed on them.

After reviewing the editorial and discussing this problem with my fellow freshman, I've noticed some problems. Two of them include the lighting and music. In the article they seemed to have been looked upon negatively. The lighting, according to what I have heard, is run by the DJ's. I find nothing wrong with the strobes, but if someone does, maybe a solution would be to turn on the lights in the opposite corner of the gym. If the problem is not the strobes but the darkness, the same solution of turning on some lights would work.

I don't think there is a solution to the music problem. There are many different types of music that could be played, but I think that the hip-hop selection being played is the best choice. I came to this by looking at some of the categories of music: rap, rock, slow, and hip-hop. Rap first came to my mind, but most rap has too much profanity. I thought of rock music next, which I happen to like. Most of the other Jr. Bills like it too, but the girls usually don't. Again, there is too much profanity. The DJ's already don't

play rock and rap music anyway. Slow music sounds good, and it usually isn't as offensive. I wouldn't mind more slow dances myself. The hip-hop is usually what is being played, and most of it is appropriate. The songs that some consider to be not so decent are usually played less often than the slow dances. An option to solve this "problem" might be to take the inappropriate music off the play list, such as Sisquó's "Thong Song."

Towards the end of the article, I noticed something about tougher chaperones or a dress code. Our chaperones are tough enough. Maybe the solution is getting more of them, but they are already tough; some are over-protective. Secondly, I don't think there should be a dress code for two reasons. To begin with, we don't have one. If the guys don't have one, girls shouldn't either, and we don't need a dress code. Secondly, who's going to create this dress code and enforce it? The girls don't want to wear their uniforms here. It would look kind of bad if we had to turn a girl away from a mixer because of how she was dressed. Maybe a rule concerning the length of skirts is needed, or something else like that. Also, how would this new "dress code" get spread around? Whenever I tell a girl that there's a mixer, I don't want to tell her that she can't wear what she wants to. A dress code will mean a lower attendance rate by both males and females. Both sexes deserve to have full freedom of what to wear at mixers.

Personally, I think that inappropriate behavior is a huge misunderstanding and is being taken too seriously. I'm not saying there is no inappropriate behavior, because that happens everywhere. That is one of the reasons why we have demerit

see ODEM, 4

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wever wonders if end to prejudice can begin at SLUH

To the Editors:

I was recently walking the halls of SLUH when I heard something that utterly disturbed me. When I heard it, I thought back to past letters and articles about racial and sexual issues that were addressed to this paper. I could not believe what I heard in the hall, and it awakened me to the other prejudiced statements being made around me that I had been ignoring. I thought back to Mr. Grier's letter about prejudice and African-Americans and also the numerous writings about sexual orientation, and I saw that they seemed to have no effect on the actions of SLUH students.

In spite of all the arguments against prejudice that have been made in school and the social intolerance of prejudice today, indecencies like this statement are still spoken. I still hear whispers of prejudice toward black people, gay people, and every other minority in the United States, not only on the streets but in the halls of SLUH.

Everyone is subject to the constant prejudice of everyday slang to the point where they are desensitized to such bigoted language. I admit that I was so unaware of this seemingly harmless speech that I slipped up from time to time and used a prejudicial slang word. After this I was very angry at myself and I tried very hard to never use the word again.

But, there are many people who seem not to care about their potentially harmful use of words. They continually, sometimes

ODEM

(from 3)

cards, for inappropriate behavior at school. What I'm trying to say is that the level of inappropriate behavior is not something to be worried about. There isn't that much of it. It's just that the few bad things that do happen are made into big dilemmas which are unnecessary. Also, the chaperones often stop bad behavior quickly with their "catch you again and I'll throw ya out!" policy. When the chaperones do this, the student is scared and knows to cut it out.

If someone still thinks there is inappropriate behavior, then I would suggest more chaperones, but not tougher ones. I would also suggest to the students to avoid doing this stuff, because then there wouldn't be a problem.

I don't think that the staff realizes that we are trying to have fun while keeping it appropriate, and the SLUH community does that very well. If someone would disagree with me, I would ask them if they have chaperoned any recent parties. Parents know what goes on at mixers, and I'm sure that my parents would much rather have me going to a mixer sponsored by my school than to some party. The parties aren't always chaperoned, and there is usually alcohol there. My parents usually don't allow me to go to

without thought to, use discriminatory words and continue using them without contemplating their real meaning.

I do recognize the difference between political correctness and racism or prejudice. Political correctness is based on an idea that changes from culture to culture and person to person. The idea of calling someone black instead of African-American in the United States does not hold up in say, China. In China, black people are not African-American, they are not American at all—they are only known as African. Racism on the other hand is an idea that remains constant through all cultures. Someone's hate for someone else does not change or become less in another culture, so one should not mistake political correctness for racism.

I call upon the students of SLUH and students across the country to try to stop the discrimination of all. Today I see the leaders of tomorrow still discriminating against and separating one another based on physical characteristics or beliefs. These same ideas and actions have harmed the world of our parents and are continuing today. I implore the students of SLUH not only to support racial and sexual tolerance but also acceptance. In spite of the seeming inability to change the quality of life in our present situation, teens can unite together and start the healing of racism in the small setting of this school. This beginning could one day spread throughout the country.

Sincerely,
Jason Wever, '02

parties if they don't know the parents who will be chaperoning, and if the staff takes away the mixers, I might go crazy. I'm sure this is the same with many other Jr. Bills as well. This is one of the only ways I can meet girls who attend private schools.

These mixers should stay. They have been an important part of my first semester here at SLUH, and I hope that they will be here for the future generations of Jr. Billikens to come.

Thank You,
Nick Odem, '04

Preliminary Freshman Class Officer Election Results

Ryan French, John Black, Dave Marek, and Thomas Mudd won the preliminary election for the freshman class officers. A final election will be held next week for the two class officer positions.

Basketbills continue disappointing season with losses to DeSmet and Kirkwood

Shawn Furey
Reporter

Another week, another set of top ten opponents, another set of difficult losses for the basketball team. This storyline may seem somewhat redundant, but it is true nonetheless. The U. High's schedule and overall cold shooting towards the end of games have led to loss after loss for the Bills. The games against the Kirkwood Pioneers and the CBC Cadets proved to be no different.

This past Friday evening the Bills hosted a Kirkwood basketball team which feature two massive twin brothers. The Smith twins, who both top 6'5", have dominated opponents all year long and almost single-handedly landed Kirkwood in the area's Top Ten. During these teams' first meeting earlier in the season, the Pioneers used the twins' size and power to pull out a 58-52 victory. The Bills looked to slow down their production and therefore slow the whole team.

The Bills did just that in holding the Pioneers to just 38 points, often times visibly frustrating the dynamic duo. Seniors Tim Vreeland and Kyle Bruno man-



Kevin Schroeder looks for an opening against Kirkwood.

aged to keep Anthony Smith, the taller twin, from dominating under the basket.

Sadly, the emphasis on defense seemed to be the game's overall theme, as Kirkwood continually pressured the SLUH outside shooters and created turn-

overs. The outstanding Billiken defensive effort was lost in their inability to score, and they fell to the Pioneers 38-34.

Of the loss, junior guard Adam Siebenman said, "Losses like these are extra difficult, because the game was always within our reach, and we just couldn't make the move."

On Tuesday night, the Billikens looked to rebound with a strong game versus the CBC Cadets, who had also narrowly defeated them earlier in this season. This proved to be a rough game for SLUH, and a set of strange circumstances for many people.

There were two odd situations that CBC looked like it would have to deal with on Tuesday night. The first odd happening was that earlier in the day, more than half of the CBC team was in the nurse's office ill with flu symptoms. Until game time it was undecided who would even play for the Cadets.

see **HOOPS**, 7

Racquetbills manage a .500 finish in '01

Jr. Bills crush Ladue 6-1, prepare for state tourney

Mike Gau
Reporter

Last Thursday, the Racquetball-Bills finished up their season by beating Ladue at West James Sports Complex in St. Charles. The team overcame Ladue's players and spectators and won the match 6-1, once again showing how much they have improved over the course of the season. Only top-seeded junior Joe Sharamitaro was unable to pull out a victory.

For those who are unfamiliar with the sport, Matt Soraghan put it best when he said, "It's kind of like half court volleyball, but with walls instead of out-of-bounds, no net, a racquet and a smaller ball."

In a nutshell, the Jr. Bills lost to Vianney twice, lost to Kirkwood twice, lost to DeSmet once and beat everyone else to finish off the season with a .500 record. Junior Kevin Moore was undeniably the anchor of the team, losing only once all season. On some occasions, Moore or junior Andy Schumert had to win their match to prevent the team from getting donuted (when the team does not win any matches).

This Saturday, the Racquetballers will look to defend their title at the state tournament at Concord Sports Complex in South County.

Like most of the team, Sharamitaro has been "looking forward to this Saturday since last Saturday." The team is seeded fourth in the tourney, behind

Vianney, DeSmet, and Kirkwood.

The state tournament is a single elimination tournament where each player plays opponents of the same seed.

Individual players are seeded as well, based on their performances during the season. Sharamitaro is seeded eighth out of all the state's number one seeded players, Moore is seeded first of the second seeds, Schumert is seeded third of the third seeds, and Chris Guilfooy is seeded fourth of the fourth seeds.

Mike Gau is seeded fourth of the fifth seeds, Matt Soraghan is seeded fifth of the sixth seeds and the dynamic doubles duo of Mike Brand and Tom Brokelman is seeded fourth of the doubles teams.

The tourney will be on Saturday in South County. Admission is free.

Spartans run Jesuit Tournament streak to seven years with 4-1 victory over Jr. Bills

John Neff
Reporter

Last Saturday, the Hockeybills went to Affton Ice Rink to play in what always proves to be one of the biggest games of the year, the Jesuit Cup.

The team had defeated unbeaten Chaminade, demolished St. Mary's, and had an eight-game unbeaten streak under their belts when it entered the annual



The disputed shot began when winger Joe Montavani skated behind DeSmet's goalie to retrieve the rebound of John Greffet's blast. (Photos by Kevin Moore)

contest versus Desmet. While SLUH hadn't won the cup since '94, their chances looked good.

The game was filled with what ifs, close calls, and a bit of controversy, too. Midway through the second period, Joe Mantovani found himself on the left side of DeSmet's net with goalie James Ritter on the ground and a wide open net. When Montovani shot the puck, it appeared as though it crossed the goal line and came back out. Most of the fans though, were sure it was a goal and the crowd erupted. The roar quickly changed to yelling, booing, and disbelief when the referee waved off the goal.

Coach Busenhart, from his position on the near bench, thought the puck hit the left post, flew through the crease, and then banked off the right post without crossing the goal line. Montavani agreed, saying that he saw the puck hit the post and begin to deflect away, but he could not be en-

tirely sure because before the puck hit the other post he had looked away.

A few minutes later, DeSmet players crashed the net hoping to pick up a rebound. When the referee lost sight of the puck, he whistled the play dead. After clearing the pile, though, the puck was lying just barely over the goal line behind Schuessler. DeSmet contested the ruling, but because the play was already dead, they argued to no avail.

Finally, to close out the controversy



After Montavani hit the near post with his shot, the puck bounces and spins in an apparent course for the back of the net.

with about 7:00 left in the third, Bob Lachky ripped a shot from the right circle that beat Ritter, but then the puck flew back out of the net with a loud clang. Again, the fans thought the team had scored, but it was waved off again.

Concerning both of the potential goals, Busenhart said, "When not one of the players on the ice reacts to a shot as if it were a goal, it most likely isn't." None of the SLUH players on the ice reacted to either of the shots.

In the first period, both teams came out strong, but it was clear that DeSmet had the advantage in speed. Several times their players were able to break through SLUH's defense and get in close on goalie Geoff Schuessler.

SLUH refused to be intimidated, however, and pelted goalie James Ritter with twelve shots in the first while Desmet could manage only three.

At 4:32 of the first, though, T.J. Toal

scored on a redirection to put DeSmet up 1-0. Schuessler was in excellent position to stop the original shot, but after it changed direction, he had no chance. So the first ended with DeSmet only up by one and with SLUH still very much in the game and leading in shots 12-3. DeSmet came out strong again in the second period but At 11:52, DeSmet's Peter Hurley picked up a rebound in front the net and put it past Schuessler to put DeSmet up 2-0.



The difficult-to-locate puck has ricocheted away from the net and is between the DeSmet defender and goalie. The shot was ruled no goal.

Less than four minutes later, however, Tim Mudd drew the puck from the face-off in the right circle back to Todd Turner at the right point, who then blasted a shot past Ritter on the blocker side.

The second ended with total shots in favor of SLUH 22-13. At 9:22 of the third period Toal added his second goal of the night by beating two SLUH players back on defense and holding off a third with one arm while he shot the puck past Schuessler one-handed, pushing DeSmet up 3-1.

Desmet was able to hold off SLUH, and Jack Donovan added an empty net goal with fifteen second left in the game to finish with a final score 4-1.

So for the seventh year in a row the Jesuit Cup returns to Desmet, and SLUH will have to wait until next year again.

The team will play its next game tonight at Webster Ice Rink versus the Webster Statesmen at 9:15 P.M.

Spandexbills end season with series of wins; prepare for post-season tournament

Alex Born
Reporter

The past two weeks have been busy ones for the SLUH wrestling team. Last Thursday marked the beginning of the end of the Grapplebills' regular season as they faced off with MCC rival Chaminade.

The match, held at Chaminade, began in favor of SLUH as lightweights Alex Born and Sean Staed pinned both of their opponents, giving the Headlockbills an early lead.

Senior captain Stan Niemeier and juniors Colin O'Brien and Joe Bommarito kept the momentum going with strong mid-weight wins. Junior Dan Wankum and sophomores John Horman and John Stathopolus, led by senior Ben Purcell, cleaned up with two decisions and two pins, earning SLUH the victory with room to spare.

Just two days later, last Saturday, the SLUH Underhookbills wrestled in the annual MICDS Tournament held at MICDS. The long day started off with strong wins by Purcell, Staed, Bommarito, and O'Brien.

As the day continued, SLUH wres-

tlers competed for their rightful spots in the semifinal and final brackets, wrestling against teams including O'Hara, MICDS, and Hazelwood West.

Saturday evening saw nine SLUH wrestlers competing for a place in the top five, with Bommarito the lone Billiken going for first.

In an exciting final match, Bommarito won 7-5 over his MICDS opponent.

Sunday's day of rest was well deserved, as the average Takedownbill had wrestled as many as seven matches in two days.

However, the marathon continued as the wrestling team prepared to host sectional rival Pattonville the next day in the SLUH gym. After a long day off, the SLUH Whoopingcranebills were ready to face their Metro North rivals.

The Monday night match started off slowly for the Bills as byes and losses at the lightweight level gave the Pirates an early lead. The momentum of the match

was moving in favor of Pattonville until sophomore and varsity newbie Pete Mahoney stepped up with a big win at 125. Mahoney leveled his opponent in a 16-5



Ben Purcell shows the strain of his battle against his DeSmet opponent.

victory which pushed the Grapplebills in the right direction, swinging the balance of the match.

Niemeier continued the wave with a win at 130. Wins by O'Brien, co-captain Purcell, and Horman kept both teams on edge. Team points came up short, however, and the SLUH Headlockbills had to see **RIPCORN**, 10

HOOPS

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Another other odd circumstance was a potentially ugly display of politics in high school sports. Due to a situation in which an African-American senior from CBC was dismissed from the basketball team, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) had apparently threatened to picket outside the game to protest the student's efforts to rejoin the team being denied. Despite an announcement from Principal Robert Bannister alerting SLUH students to the possibility of a picket, there were no visible signs of distur-

bance besides the extra police protection on hand.

Once the ball was finally tipped, the Cadets jumped out to an early 9-0 lead, fueled by two long three-pointers from CBC's Ryan Sapp. However, the Bills closed the gap well, and the score stood at 12-10 at the end of the first quarter.

Due to foul trouble and illness, the massive CBC front court was basically held in check. However, the duo of Sapp and shooting guard Richard Knoll allowed CBC to pull away and never look back.

With Troy Lindbeck also sick and Larry Jones playing for the wrong school,

the Bills generated very little offensively. A lead that was once 20 ended up being 13, as the Cadets beat the Jr. Bills 58-45. The Bills were led by juniors Kris Lowes and Sean Reidy, who each had ten points.

ANNOUNCEMENT

On Monday, homeroom will begin at the usual time, but, to accommodate returning seniors, the day will begin with prayer service for seniors and Activity Period for everyone else. First period begins at 9:06.

WADE

(from 1)

Friday afternoon the group started the first leg of its pilgrimage by traveling to Immaculata parish in Clayton for a youth rally and Mass celebrated by Archbishop Justin Rigali. During the Mass, Rigali communicated his pleasure with young people and their commitment to life.

In addition to the 28 SLUH students on the trip, there were three SLUH teachers: theology teacher and Pro-Life club moderator Tim Chik, interim economics

teacher Pete Cerneka, and theology teacher Randy Rosenberg.

Though it was the first time SLUH participated as a school, some of the students involved had participated in the event in previous years. Among them was Tommy Sullivan, a SLUH senior who, along with classmate Chris Conard, took a leave of absence from his senior project to attend the march.

Groups from Cor Jesu and St. Joseph Academy also attended the march, riding on the same bus to D.C. Stacy Holgate,

moderator for this group, asserted that “the kids of Bus One” (the SLUH-Cor Jesu-St. Joseph bus) “took on a role of leadership not only in their faith but in what they truly believed in.”

When the SLUH Pro-Life crew finally arrived at the Days Inn in Silver Springs, they got settled and left to visit the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Georgetown.

The next morning the group did a bit of sight-seeing at such notable locations as the Smithsonian, Congress, the White House, and various museums in the nation’s capital.

On Monday, after the third and final mass of the pilgrimage, the St. Louis contingent walked into D.C. for the march.

For some, the march was a time to reflect. Maria Kremer, a sophomore at Cor Jesu, called the march “a quiet time when I think of the injustice of abortion itself and the cause that I am here to protest.”

For others the march was an exhibition of free speech. Once again, the SLUH group led the way with cheers led by Pro-Life club captain Chris Conard.

Knock-offs of ever-popular SLUH cheers were crafted into useful pro-life chants by a SLUH upperclassman and then belted out by Conard and the rest of the group.

Many of the marchers were impressed with the SLUH group and expressed their delight in the students’ overflowing spirit.

One such person, Alice Gladden from Staten Island, told the students to “keep it up. We need more kids like you in here.”

But Gladden wasn’t the only one who praised the SLUH group. In fact, two nights before the march, while eating at a French restaurant in Georgetown, Cerneka was presented with a \$300 check from a married couple named McCormick who were “impressed with the SLUH students and their commitment,” said Chik.

Those who attended the trip deemed it a success. Cerneka summed up the power of the experience by saying, “I relearned that the beauty of the country is derived from our right to congregate.”

OUTBREAK

(from 1)

issue. Yet, “It’s as long as it is because we had so much good stuff,” said moderator and English teacher Rich Moran. Also, “the length of some of the fiction” pushed the record-breaking page number.

The process of creating the Winter ‘01 issue began last December when editors began soliciting work from students through fliers and some personalized invitations to potential contributors.

On Saturday, Jan. 6, the literary editors—seniors Kelleher and Ryan Williamson, and juniors Andrew Ivers, Andy Neilsen, and Joey Neilsen—met with Moran and moderator and English teacher Adam Conway, ’93, in the *Sisyphus*, M204, and debated the quality of each manuscript.

The editors, according to Conway, who served as an editor from ’91 to ’93, “showed a willingness to be critical without any *ad hominem* kind of stuff.”

One noteworthy aspect of the process is that the ultimate decision of the group is based on the editors’ decision. Moran said he often does not read manuscripts until the group has determined their status.

On Jan. 13, the literary editors met with the art editors—senior Emmet Pey and junior Sean Smith—and layout editor, senior Tim Elfrink, to lay out the issue on computer.

A few days after the layout session,

after all the changes had been completed, Moran took the final draft of the magazine to the printers at Peace Institute Press.

Moran speaks highly of Greg Stevens, Moran’s Peace Institute Press consultant, saying, “He’s unbelievably patient and cooperative with us. He seems to want the magazine to look as good as we want it to.”

Only 375 copies of the magazine will be printed, due to *Sisyphus*’ budget, at a cost of over \$2 per copy. Yet, it will be sold for 25 cents to SLUH students.

“By asking for a quarter,” Moran explained, “we target people who will use their quarter to express their interest.” Editors hope all who purchase a copy Tuesday have a genuine interest.

One highlight of the magazine is a story by senior Greg Scott called “Blemish,” which Moran said “is one of the best stories we’ve ever published.”

“There is also a really nice drawing (by Matt Shaver) in the centerfold.”

Conway added, “There are always guys on their own” who produce good pieces, but a majority of the writing is created by the senior English electives.

“I think this issue is better,” compared to the last two, Joey Neilsen concluded. “We always did a lot of great stuff, but this year on a whole, everything we got was better; there is so much good stuff.”

SLUH's neighborhood, our neighborhood

Andy Neilsen
Core Staff

Looking at the desolate houses along Kingshighway, many parents would blanch at the thought of their children spending so much time in the surrounding area. What many don't realize is that despite the impoverished urban atmosphere of the Kings-Oak and Forest Park Southeast neighborhoods, forces in the city—including SLUH, residents of the neighborhood, and public organizations—are beginning to revitalize such a busy area.

Among students, many have the attitude that the city is something to be feared, avoided, and overlooked. We are a part of this neighborhood by going to school in it, and it is our responsibility to give something back. There can be no more hiding behind our iron gates. Too many students echo the "men for others" mantra and consider their job done. This attitude must change. We must do more.

So where can we go from here? Many have taken change into their own hands. Two developing areas are in our midst, areas that every student passes on the way home or can even see from the school. These two areas, one at Kingshighway and Berthold and the other at Kingshighway and Manchester, are being improved, with special thanks to SLUH staff members and neighborhood residents. English teacher Rich Moran, Vice President of Administration Brian Sweeney, SLUH and Science Center board member Ted Hellman, Joe Patke, and '67 graduate Mike Goeke—in their defense of the neighborhood—have spoken out against destructive businesses to keep the area alive.

At the intersection of Berthold and Kingshighway, just one block east of the SLUH student parking lot, a small property has been contested for many years. Two years ago, the Yellow Key Payday Loan Company attempted to buy the property. Initially, the new company seemed like a good idea for a property that has remained vacant since a Kentucky Fried Chicken moved out of the building more than ten years ago. However, when members of the community began to analyze a business of this sort more carefully, they found that such a place would be detrimental to the community.

At its base, a pay-day loan facility encourages clients who ascribe to the idea that money is readily available to them at any time. In this way, it encourages residents in an area already plagued by poverty to be less careful with the money that they have, since a quick pay-day loan would seem to solve their problems. For all of these reasons, the community members and

Moran—who, as a neighborhood resident and a SLUH teacher has a double interest in what kind of business inhabits the property—wanted to stop the progress of this establishment. With the support of the neighborhood and some SLUH staff members, Moran and others convinced the Commissioners for Conditional Use Permits to stop Yellow Key's development of this property.

With this battle won, the neighborhood has still been receptive to new businesses that would draw a more stabilizing element to the area. Recently, the St. Louis Import Company, a business that can only be said to specialize in variety, opened for business on the site. With its sign advertising "Oriental Rugs and Cell Phones," this establishment has yet to achieve a niche in the community. St. Louis Import manager Jim Semxoon says that the

company only draws "about 2% of its business from the area." Even so, Semxoon reports steady business, citing the busy intersection of Kingshighway and Manchester as advantageous to his business, which he says the is drawn from all over the St. Louis area.

However, some residents are concerned that the Import Company doesn't provide any stability to the area. As Semxoon said, his business draws mostly from other areas, and neighborhood residents feel that a business that would attract more commerce from the area would keep revenue in the area, rather than distributing it to other parts of the city.

Besides the Berthold property, there is a small triangle of land at the intersection of Manchester and Kingshighway. Near its eastern end, this urban "island" is divided by an alley, with the east side owned by the city. Years ago, Anheuser-Busch acquired the property, hoping to find a developer.

Once a Phillips 66 gas station, the island is now little more than a pit stop for Bi-State bus passengers and a graveyard for gas station remnants. In the 20 years since Phillips 66 was replaced by the Amoco across the street, numerous companies have offered their services to the area, only to be rejected by community boards or to rescind their offers.

A-B still owns the property, but is now negotiating with the St. Louis Science Center about their plans to develop it. SLUH board member Ted Hellman, who also sits on the Science Center's board, spoke of the Science Center's desire to acquire the property and perhaps develop a landscaped outdoor activities area. Hellman believes that the displays will provide beauty and hopefully some education to the neighborhood. Hellman de

see **THE BIZ**, 10



The newly-opened St. Louis Imports at Kingshighway and Berthold.



The long-desolate island at Kingshighway and Manchester.

by Tom O'Brien

Calendar

January 26 - February 2

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

Schedule #1

BB: V vs. Jefferson City @ 7pm

BB: B vs. Jefferson City @ 5:30pm

Wr: C @ MCC Tournament @ DeSmet @ 4pm

Hoc: V @ Webster @ 9:15pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

Mock Trial Competition

Wr: V, JV MCC Tournament @ Chaminade @ 10am

SW: vs. MICDS/Columbia Hickman @ RecPlex

Ra: State Championship @ Concorde

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Close-Up trip departs

Hoc: JV @ Affton vs. Lafayette @ 8pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

Schedule #1

Seniors return from project

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

Schedule #1

Fr. Eng. Tutorial Pro-Life club

St. Louis College of Pharmacy

BB: V @ Oakville @ 7pm

BB: B @ Oakville @ 5:30pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

Schedule #1

All school liturgy for Black History

Formal Attire

SW: MCC Preliminaries @ Chaminade

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Schdule #1

Jr. Parent college planning mtg. 7-9pm

Rosary in Chapel

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Schedule #1

Human Rights Speaker: Kathy Kelly

BB: V vs. DeSmet @ 7pm

BB: B vs. DeSmet @ 5:30pm

SW: MCC Finals @ Chaminade @ 4pm

Hoc: V @ Affton vs. CBC @ 8pm

THE BIZ

(from 9)

scribes these plans as very tentative, however, as the Science Center has yet to acquire the island from A-B. The SLUH community would also benefit; the area would look more welcoming, which is always a plus for recruiting students. We talk extensively of pride, and a beautiful surrounding neighborhood is something

we can be proud of.

On Cadet Ave., which borders the island to the north, more development plans are in the works. On the north side of Cadet, real estate development agency McCormack Barron will soon begin demolishing houses from Cadet to Witchita on Kingshighway and on Cadet until its intersection with Manchester to make room for a new Assistive Living Center

for senior citizens. This project marks a continuation of McCormack Barron's continuous development in the neighborhood, with many of its projects focusing on helping residents and cleaning up the appearance of the area. SLUH grad Mike Goeke, a McCormack Barron employee and neighborhood resident has been active in the area for many years, pushing for better development. It is this continuing social concern, not some vague financial success, which can really be the correct example for SLUH graduates.

While the plans for the island itself are still tentative, interested and ambitious neighborhood residents have been doing their part to make positive changes in property development. In addition to these people, SLUH faculty and staff members have used their other positions to keep the neighborhood improving, from Science Center development to concern about other development. SLUH, as a strong and viable organization in the area, can make a difference to the residents; this is an obligation of SLUH's location which can't be ignored. As Hellman said, "We have made a decision to stay here, and we want SLUH and the neighborhood to invest themselves in it."

RIPCORD

(from 7)

settle for a loss.

With the regular season drawing to a close, SLUH wrestlers had just one more duel left. On Wednesday, they faced off against MCC archrival De Smet who, for the past four years, has opted to exclude SLUH from their schedule.

The DeSmet duel also marked the last home match for SLUH's six remaining seniors, Brian Wallisch, Dave Repking, Jim Pagano, Staed and captains Purcell and Niemeier.

The late evening duel started out with an impressive victory by Staed at 125. Early byes and Staed's win gave SLUH an early lead as the momentum

lead the Halfnelsonbills to more wins, including a second period pin by O'Brien and an exciting major decision win by Horman.

SLUH's team points totaled 37, beating out DeSmet by 5 points and sealing the victory for the Jr. Bills. As the regular season draws to a close, the SLUH wrestlers prepare for the MCC tournament this weekend at Chaminade.

Presently, the SLUH Grapplebills have defeated every MCC school, giving the SLUH team a definitive edge over their Metro-Catholic competition.

The SLUH Headlockbills anticipate a strong showing at the tournament as the regular season draws to a close and the post-season begins.