

Inside this week's *Prep News*...

Forum: Austermann comments on four years of theater tech, *see page 3*

Sports: Racquetballs place sixth nationally, *see page 5*

Letters: Neuner questions SLUH's admissions policy, *see page 3*

St. Louis University High School

Prep News



"If nothing else, value the truth."

Volume LXV

Friday, March 9, 2001

Issue 23

SLUH hosts Amnesty plea for inmate's life

Antonio Richardson is eventually granted a stay by Supreme Court

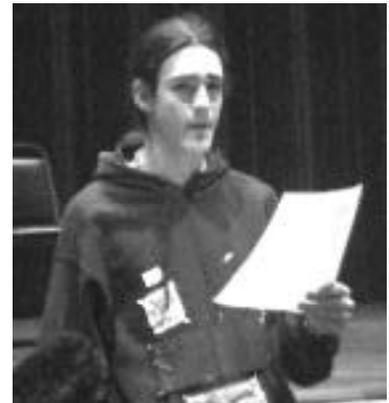
Raj Joseph
Assistant Editor

Antonio Richardson was scheduled to die by lethal injection at the Potosi Correctional Center on 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, Mar. 7. Due to their belief that this particular execution is unwarranted based on mitigating circumstances, such as Richardson's age (he was 16 at the time of the crime), reported IQ of 73, and poor legal advice, the St. Louis U. High chapter of Amnesty International hosted a press conference in the theater this past Monday. They made a case to Missouri Governor Robert

Holden that Antonio Richardson should be granted clemency or a stay of his execution.

SLUH senior Ryan Rakel said that SLUH was chosen for the conference because its location in the city was "convenient for the press, so SLUH or Rosati-Kain High School" were viable options.

The Midwest Regional office of Amnesty International invited any of their student coordinators to speak at SLUH, so Meredith Cobb, a junior at Metro, Ryan Koenig, a freshman at Metro, and a senior from John Burroughs High School spoke to the audience of about fifty
see HUMAN RIGHTS, 7



Ryan Koenig, a freshman from Metro High, makes a plea for Richardson's life.

Technical Theater staff dismissed after bonfire

Tim Elfrink and Andrew Ivers
Editors

Wednesday afternoon, people scurried about the backstage area of the theatre. Stage Crew members moved equipment and players hurried to meetings in the dance studio. Yet the usual fervor and excitement associated with the bustle of the theatre seemed to be absent; the mood was quite somber.

Most people present were working toward the Dauphin Players' production of *Of Mice and Men*, slated for mid-April.

Yet, the theatre shop has been stripped of almost all its tools; crew members are moving the last of their belongings to the loading dock; the "Working" sign on the wall has been amended with spray paint: "Working no more."

"The shop is empty—all the tools were Tom's," said senior and former crew member Jeremy Ziegler. "That's not the way it should be."

Not only the technical faction, but the entire theatre department has been tainted by the firing of Technical Director Tom
see WORKING NO MORE, 9

WWII Vets speak for sophomores

Compiled from Sources

This Thursday, three veterans of World War II and two of their wives came to visit one of history teacher Bonnie Laughlin's classes. Eugene Ganz, Al Jamison, and Walter Gaterman were veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, the last German offensive of WWII, fought during the winter of 1944-1945 in western Europe. Active participants
see VETS, 4

Speechbills close out impressive '01 with win

Alex Green
Reporter

On Sunday, Mar. 4, the SLUH Speech Team competed in the fourth Christian Interscholastic Speech League (CISL) meet of the 2000-2001 school year, held at Cor Jesu Academy. This meet, the most important in the CISL, is the speech finals and marks the end of the season.

After a grueling day of competition, everyone gathered together to learn of the winners. This year, the SLUH team came out on top, earning first place overall, above rivals DeSmet and Borgia, easily beating them by over thirty points. There were over fifteen schools competing in CISL this year in eight different categories, with hundreds of students from around the region.

During the finals, the top seven contestants from each category compete in one round of speeches instead of the standard two rounds. This year's SLUH finalists were Brian Cunningham in

Storytelling, Chris Storey in Humorous/Serious Interpretation, Dave Neuner in Radio Broadcasting, Kwofe Coleman and Fiju Job in Original Oratory, J.R. Strzelec and Justin Austermann in Prose, Pat Cody in Poetry Reading, Ghassan Mohsen in Extemporaneous Speaking, and the duos Justin Smith/Mark Milford and Peter Merideth/Alex Green in Duet Acting.

In finals, there are no ribbons handed out, only trophies. Each finalist is ranked in his or her own category and is awarded first, second, third, or Finalist. The SLUH team was extremely proud when six of its members were rated in the top three of their category. Mohsen received third, Neuner received second, and Strzelec, Job, and Merideth/Green received first in their respective categories.

This incredibly high number of top finishes gave the SLUH team a large enough number of points to beat their bitter rival, DeSmet.

Speech Team coach and moderator Kathryn Whitaker is "very proud of the team" because they are "the best [she has]

ever seen."

"This is the first time in memory that the speech team has won the first place trophy," she said. Last year, the team finished third overall, behind Borgia and DeSmet.

Storey said, "Last year, we promised ourselves that we'd get better. The judges finally got it right this year and sent us home with the first place trophy."

This is the last year of speech for team members Austermann, Cody, Coleman, Job, Milford, Meredith, Mohsen, and Neuner. Team President Milford said, "Although the team is losing many talented men, the future looks very bright."

In celebration of a successful 2000-2001 speech year, the team ended with a banquet on Sunday evening in the Currihan Room.

Team member Merideth commented, "It was nice to come together and celebrate our success. We definitely deserved it."

During the fall of next year, the speech team will hold auditions for new members. All are encouraged to audition.

Quizbills buzz their way to third place finish

Joey Neilsen
Reporter

On Saturday morning, tension flooded the first floor of Cor Jesu Academy as ten schools, including SLUH, CBC, Priory, DeSmet, and Visitation, faced off in a five hour marathon academic tournament. From nine to noon, Quiz Bowl teams from area private schools played each other in hour-long games to advance to the semifinals.

Each game consists of fifty toss-up questions and up to eighty bonus questions in four quarters, with a possible point total of 900 points. The SLUH team split into two groups of four which each played two quarters. The Quizbills easily won against DeSmet in the first round, and then crushed

Visitation in the second round 300-195 despite illegal protests from Visitation team members on the sidelines. Cor Jesu's team pulled the same trick, but Coach Tom Becvar saved the day with his knowledge of the rules, and the Bills won their third game in a row.

After a lunch break of Wendy's, Subway, and two-on-two basketball, four teams returned to Cor Jesu at one o'clock. In the semifinals, the Quizbills were helpless without their lucky gray buzzers and never took the lead. Visitation turned the tables and knocked the Jr. Bills out of first place by a score of 260-185. To determine who took third place, SLUH played Cor Jesu.

Scores were low in the last round due
see **ZEPTOPOINT, 6**

Math Contest Results

Freshman/Sophomore Test (Minimum Score 116 to Qualify)

So. Chris Wojcicki	120
Fr. Chris Luth	116

Junior/Senior Test (Minimum Score 84 to Qualify)

Sr. Andrew Nahlik	104
Sr. Nick Davis	92
Sr. Sean Staed	88
Sr. Peter Merideth	84

Qualifiers will advance to the
American Invitational Math
Exam on March 27.

Commentary

Theatre tech staff remembered for accomplishments, not bonfire

Justin Austermann
Features Editor

Last Friday afternoon, the defining element of my high school experience came to an abrupt end.

Walking into the theatre scene shop three years ago as an unknown underclassman was a rather daunting experience. Within my first couple days as a member of the SLUH stage crew, I was nearly decapitated by a sheet of plywood the table saw decided to kick back at me. About that time, technical director Tom Dunsworth decided I needed a quick refresher course in table saw safety, and his brother Dan figured it was a good time for a funny story about *his* first time using the table saw. I've been laughing and learning ever since.

Tom began working long before the theatre was built to provide students with the most professional and enjoyable working environment possible. While no amount of hard work and outstanding results earned the tech staff respect (let alone praise) from the school at large, they achieved something much more enduring.

To a small group of students, they were teachers, friends, and mentors. Over countless long days and late nights, the staff poured their time, their hearts, and their passion into a program that allowed us to be a part of something magical.

But even magic can't last. No one can deny that mistakes have been made in the past few years. Last Friday's lapse in judgement was the final mistake, and the administration did what they had to do.

As a result of last week's events, much of the student crew has since resigned from the upcoming production. Not out of anger or cliquishness, merely out of loyalty to world we loved and which cannot be recreated. Besides, everyone needs a little break every once in a while.

I suppose suppose the only thing left to say now is "thanks" to Tom, Dan, Corey, Kobra, and Mike. It was worth all the late nights, sore backs, and even the trecherous table saw. You were some of the best friends and teachers we could have hoped to encounter; it has been an honor and a pleasure that we won't soon forget.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Neuner questions SLUH's admission of non-Catholics

To the editors:

There is a statistic about the incoming freshman class of 2005 that concerns me, and it is a statistic that I feel the Admissions Committee should be concerned about as well. Out of the class of 2005, 93 percent of the students are Catholic. In my opinion, this percentage is too low, and a number of people I have talked to agree with me. I truly believe this percentage needs to be higher.

According to the mission statement: "St. Louis University High School is a Catholic, Jesuit learning community." The theology teachers all teach fundamentals of Catholic doctrine in theology classes, and with the class of 2005, those ideals will relate to only 93 percent of the new freshman class. What about the other 7 percent who are not Catholic? Will they fully understand Catholicism and its teachings even though they believe something else? And why should they be forced to?

Catholic-educated kids from parochial elementary schools across St. Louis are being turned down in great numbers, and I fear that this statistic of 93 percent will decline in the next five to ten years. If the Admissions Committee continues to foster this declining percentage, SLUH will have to change the beginning of its mission statement to this: "St. Louis University High School is a Catholic/other religions, Jesuit learning community."

Some time after letters of decision arrived, I was at Mass at my parish, and I was talking with my former eighth grade English teacher. She said that the top three young men in this eighth grade

class, the top three young men in achievements gradewise, in extracurriculars, in winning various types of sports and character awards, and in other school-related activities, were turned down. Why? They had one or two standardized test scores that were a little low, and because of these scores, these young men were turned down. Is this fair?

My teacher and I talked at length about this, and I was shocked to hear what she said. She went on to say that the administration felt that these top three achievers would not be able to make it at SLUH because of how they did on their standardized tests. The administration could not be more wrong. Parochial school kids prepare from fifth through eighth grade to go to a Catholic high school, and during this time, they achieve much inside and outside the classroom. In my opinion, SLUH has cheated these three kids out of a SLUH education. Standardized tests DO NOT tell the whole story.

I am not saying SLUH should turn public school kids away if they have the right credentials, and SLUH could be the right place for them. My point is this: if the Admissions Committee continues to decide admission based on what happened this year, then I predict the percentage of parochial school kids will continue to decline. SLUH needs to figure out how to stop this decline, and the Admissions Committee needs to take more care when making its decisions about admission.

Sincerely,
David Neuner'01

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Horman warns of the dangers of drug use

Dear SLUH students,

I started using marijuana when I was twelve years old. I thought to myself, "no big problem." My problem started to grow over time and I began using marijuana every day of my life. I lied to myself when I told myself it was not affecting me.

Now I look back on all the things I have done in my life since I started using marijuana, seeing all of the negative effects it had. I was so blind to see what it was doing to me and the people I influenced with it. Gradually I became careless of everything in my life, and my main concern was to get high.

I lied to myself when I told myself I could juggle school and using it, but the truth is it was affecting me. I would rather smoke

than study for school. It totally took control of me. Ultimately, it messed up one of the greatest opportunities of my life, attending SLUH.

So this is my request for students at SLUH who use alcohol or drugs: get help as soon as possible. Please, get help before it is too late. Do not be afraid of help like I was. Do not lie to yourself and say you do not need help.

Sincerely,

Johnathan Horman

Editor's note: Horman was expelled after last month's drug investigation.

VETS

(from 1)

in the Gateway chapter of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, they travel to various places to relay their experience. On Thursday they were joined by their wives, Bobbie Ganz and Maxine Gaterman.

"This whole event came about after one of my student's mother—whose father is also a veteran of the Battle of the Bulge—informed me about the group," said Laughlin. The student, Kevin Fournie, was one of the 27 sophomores in attendance. Fournie's mother and grandparents also attended.

The presentation began with an overview of WWII and the Battle of the Bulge. Aided by several large maps of WWII Europe, Eugene Ganz discussed the battle's background and also discussed war-time tactics.

Ganz, wounded twice from shrapnel, concluded by discussing the costs of the battle. In a period of 41 days, he related, 8,497 American men were killed, 46,000 wounded, and 21,000 captured. Ganz finished by thundering that the freedom that Americans enjoy today is because of fighting like this: "That's the price; that's the cost."

Maxine Gaterman followed Ganz by speaking about life on the American homefront. She lingered on women's work during WWII, as women took "all kinds of jobs they had never done before" when soldiers vacated jobs and workers in war industry production were desperately needed.

"Everyone wanted to do their part," she added, noting that even children saved their money to buy war bonds.

She closed by recalling meeting her husband, Walter Gaterman, at a USO-sponsored dance. She noted that the girls attending the dances were warned "not to date a soldier, but... you know," she added with a grin.

Walter Gaterman then joked, "Gentlemen, I had to move fast because I didn't want to lose her," but the tone of his talk soon sobered. On Dec. 23, 1944, Gaterman was captured by the Germans in a small Belgian village and was a POW in a concentration camp.

His description of conditions silenced the students. He discussed food rations—1/7 of a loaf of bread and "unidentifiable," watery soup—and living conditions. He noted that when the men got to the camp, they lived in small rooms with three tiers of bunks. "By the time the Russians liberated us," he added, "there was hardly any bunk left," as it had been chipped off and burned to heat a room that was, at best, 40 degrees.

He closed with an emotional statement to students about the blessings and luxuries that they as Americans enjoy, ones that seem strange in comparison to the life he led as a POW. Recalling a hunger that "never went away," he looked squarely at the audience and questioned, "You don't think you'll eat bugs? Gentlemen, I'll guarantee you will. You'll be amazed at what you'll eat—and enjoy it."

Before questions from students were taken, Al Jamison showed many WWII items to the students: helmets, uniforms, canteens, boots, medals, and "pineapples," which the students soon learned were hand grenades.

Sophomore John Hitzel noted, "I was extremely enlightened about the situation of soldiers and POWs in WWII." Summing up the entire experience—and particularly referring to Jamison's showing of a grenade that could be attached and shot from a rifle—he added, "It was cool!"

Laughlin agreed, hoping that next year, more students can be invited to attend what she describes as an "amazing experience."



Veteran Eugene Ganz speaks about his time on the front lines of Europe.

Racquetbills place 6th in Nationals

Team finishes higher than state champ Vianney

Kevin Moore
Core Staff

Following a fourth place finish in the state tournament, few would have thought the St. Louis U. High racquetball team would place in the top ten in the national tournament held last weekend at Concord Sports Club in St. Louis. However, the strong play of many Jr. Bills in the tournament propelled SLUH into sixth place in the nation. With 93 team points, they fared even better than the ninth place finish by Missouri state champion Vianney (75 points).

There is a special format to the national tournament. All participants start out in one large bracket, known as the gold division. Wins in the gold division earn twelve points toward the team score. Players who win their first game in gold but then lose their second-round game drop down to the blue division, where each win earns fewer team points than gold wins. Players who lose in the first round of gold drop down to red, the third division, and players who lose in red fall to the white division. Since wins in higher divisions earn the most team points and only the top three players' scores plus the doubles team's score on each team go into calculating the final score, the goal of each player is to win as many games in the higher brackets as possible.

"The national tournament is a particularly grueling tournament since there are so many rounds," said coach Joe Koestner. "The luck of the draw is never more evident than in a tournament like this, since the top sixteen players (in the country) are seeded and the rest are placed randomly in the bracket."

Junior Joe Sharamitaro made it the farthest in the gold division. After winning his first three matches, Sharamitaro played Kirkwood's Matt Allen in the round of 32 and easily coasted to a win with scores of 15-2 and 15-9. "I felt like I was playing smart and hitting the shots I needed to hit," said Sharamitaro.

In the round of 16, however,

Sharamitaro lost to Vincent Terek from Dayton, Ohio, 15-6, 15-13. Sharamitaro said, "I was missing a lot of the same shots I had been hitting in earlier rounds." Sharamitaro was knocked out of the tournament, but not before he earned many important team points in the gold division.

The other Jr. Bills, Matt Soraghan, Kevin Moore and the doubles team of senior Tom Broekelmann and sophomore Mike Brand also contributed to the scoring. After Soraghan won his first match in gold, he dropped down to the blue bracket with a loss to senior Kirk Pauley from South Dakota.

"He was really, really strong," said Soraghan, "and I couldn't keep up with him." In the blue bracket, Soraghan advanced to the quarterfinals, where he lost to Cody Christensen of Utah in a thriller, 8-15, 15-12, 9-11. "He kept hitting crazy shots off a lot of walls and I couldn't handle them," said Soraghan.

Junior Kevin Moore took a similar path as Soraghan. After winning his first match in gold, Moore lost to the seventh seed in the tournament, Ryan Lindell, 15-1, 15-9. After an initial win in the blue division, Moore faced DeSmet's James Ritter in the quarter finals. Ritter had defeated Moore in an 11-8 tiebreaker in the state finals, but in the national tournament Moore won in an 11-7 tiebreaker similar to the close matches the two played against each other throughout the season.

After a few more wins, including one over Christensen in the semifinals, Moore faced Kirkwood's best player, Danny Costello, in the finals of the blue division in front of a large crowd on the club's glass court. Both players forced each other to dive often to keep the ball alive, and the serve went back and forth numerous times while the score was 14-14 until Costello skipped a short forehand, giving Moore the 15-14 win. Despite his win in the first game, however, Moore was unable to win the match as he dropped the next two games 15-6, 11-6.

"One of the best things about this

tournament is the intensity of the rivalries among teams from the same area, but there is also a lot of camaraderie among these teams," said Koestner.

The doubles team of senior Tom Broekelmann and sophomore Mike Brand rounded out the team's scoring. After beating an overmatched doubles team from Kirkwood, the team faced eventual champions Kirk Pauley and Jeremy Huss from South Dakota. Broekelmann and Brand played the dynamic duo from the Badlands tough, but they ended up losing the match 15-6, 15-8.

"We played a good game against a good team and even though it ended our season in a loss I was happy with our performance," said Broekelmann.

Many Jr. Bills other than those scoring team points played well over the weekend, including sophomore Chris Guilfooy, who won his first match in gold before losing to an Oregon player and then winning a match in the blue division. Freshmen Phil Matthews and John Reagan also won their first matches in gold before both lost their next two. Brand played well after losing his first match as he went on to win four in a row in red until he lost in the quarterfinals to Vianney's Tony Nazzoli.

"I was really proud of some of the younger players who, despite losing their matches, came back and rooted on teammates such as Soraghan and Moore who were playing in later rounds," said Koestner.

About the Jr. Bills' sixth place finish in the national tournament, Koestner said, "It is another step in the revitalization of our program." The Racquetbills are only losing two seniors on the entire team and one on varsity (Broekelmann). Koestner believes that the improvement of many players during this year bodes well for next year's team. "Soraghan in particular has improved greatly in only his first full year of racquetball," said Koestner. The team looks to bring the experience gained this year into what should be a successful season next year.

Tennisbills prepare for winning season

Paddy Kelleher
Reporter

The St. Louis U. High Tennis Team comes into the 2001 season with high expectations, following last year's disappointing finish, a sectional semi-final loss to Parkway West.

SLUH has always been one of the most competitive teams in the St. Louis area, with two state championships to its credit. In each of the past five years, the team finished third or better in the state, losing only to Rockhurst in the postseason.

"We have a really good chance of making state as a team this year, due to the loss of many good players among MCC teams and a weak district (including Vianney and Oakville)," said senior Chris Vanderbeek.

The Seebills return four of last year's starting top six, including seniors Chris

Vanderbeek and Paddy Kelleher. Junior Joe Harvath is coming back after last year's standout season as a sophomore. Pat Reich, one of the team's super sophomores, will also be returning after playing number six on the team last year.

The Tennisbills are very happy to have acquired a new assistant coach from the faculty here at SLUH. Ryan Smith of the Science Department will be helping out See and assistant coach Vince Schmidt, '87. Smith brings much experience to the team, having played varsity tennis at Rockhurst High and Yale University. The Backhandbills will also depend on its four-year varsity returnees Chris Vanderbeek, Mike Garcia, and Paddy Kelleher.

Last year, Lance Vodicka led the Short-shortsbills, with a record of 27-3 and a second-place finish in the 2000 Missouri State Singles Tournament. He

is now on a full scholarship and number one singles at St. Louis University as a freshman.

Senior Mike Garcia, who is also vying for a spot in the top six, said of this year's team, "We've been spoiled the past few years because we've had some of the top players in the Midwest playing at number one, like Lance (Vodicka), Chris Tkach, and Jon Navarro. This year, however, we have one of the deepest line-ups in the St. Louis area."

"I think we'll really surprise a lot of people this year," said junior Joe Harvath, "and it would be really awesome to have some fan support, too."

The Acebills open up the season at Belleville Althoff on Mar. 27th, and the first home match is against O'Fallon (Ill.) on Mar. 30th. All home matches are played at Dwight Davis Tennis Center in Forest Park.

ZEPTOPOINT

(from 2)

questions concerning math prefixes, like "zepto" (10^{-21}), but the Bills managed to win 145-130. Becvar called the team's performance, "an extraordinarily good first effort." Visitation took first place and Valle, from St. Genevieve, took second.

SLUH's team, moderated by Becvar and Becky Ferrigni, consists of seniors Andrew Nahlik, Ghassan Mohsen, Jeremy Tietjens, Bob Brewer, Matt Dunn, Ben Wiesehan, Peter Bartz-Gallagher, and junior Joey Neilsen. The team practices three times a week after school to improve buzzing speed and prepare for the district competition in early April. The Quizbills use large stacks of flash cards, repetition, and brute memorization to absorb as much useless knowledge as possible.

The team members, however, enjoyed the competition because of the tension and excitement, not the learning process. Peter Bartz-Gallagher enjoys Quiz Bowl because, "The [game's] format intrigues my brain on two separate fronts: the intelligence necessary to answer the questions

and the fortitude necessary to withstand the intense heat of fierce competition."

The Jr. Bills will face more fierce competition when they play Rosati-Kain this Monday after school. Their third place trophy is on display in the Main Office.

2001 Varsity Football Captains

Chris Finney
Alex Glennon
Mike Pettit
Stan Richardson
Craig Sclapprizzi
Adam Siebenman

PREP NEWS

St. Louis' only

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www.sluh.org prepnews@sluh.org

Editor in Chief: Tim Elfrink

Editor: Andrew Ivers

Assistant Editor: Raj Joseph

Sports Editors: Peter Bartz-Gallagher, Matt Snively

Features Editor: Justin Austermann

Layout Staff: Matt Hoffman

Core Staff: Jeff Dueker, Kevin Moore, Andrew Neilsen, Tom O'Brien,

Web Staff: Chip Deubner

Photography: Matt Snively

Artist: Mike Garcia

Reporters: Alex Green, Raj Joseph, Brian Kane, Paddy Kelleher, Joey Neilsen, Jon Neff

Computer Consultant: Mr. Bob Overkamp

Moderators: Ms. Bonnie Laughlin, Mr. Steve Missey

Masthead Design: Rachel Marling

March 9, 2001

Sports

7

Freshman Meek skates to fifth in Nationals

Speedskating since age 3, Meek is following in a family tradition

Tom O'Brien
Reporter

When speaking of blades, some may think of a large butcher knife wielded by a crazed chef in a yuppie steakhouse; others may think of that classic Nintendo game "Blades of Steel," while still others are reminded of that great sci-fi flick with Harrison Ford, "Blade Runner." But if you were to ask freshman Patrick Meek his thoughts would inevitably turn to skating, and not just any skating, speedskating. Last week Meek placed third in the 3,000 meter event at the National Junior Championships, and fifth place overall, earning a spot on the U.S. Junior Olympic Team.

Even at this time of the year, at the dawn of spring when a young man's fancy turns to the finer things in life, Meek is in the midst of his racing season. He also practices three to four times a week around the St. Louis area.

As a third generation speed skater, Patrick started skating earlier than most. At the age of three, Meek learned to ice

HUMAN RIGHTS

(from 1)

students and faculty. Cobb and Koenig said that Metro could not host it because Metro is a public school, and therefore cannot take official stances on public issues.

At the beginning of activity period on Monday, confusion initially arose as to where the conference would be held. The conference was originally to be held in the second floor Jesuit chapel but was then moved to the theater, which some of the guest speakers did not find until about ten minutes past ten.

Before they arrived, Amnesty International club moderators Pat Coldren and Adam Conway, Amnesty International club president Ryan Rakel, and a John Burroughs senior introduced both the purpose of the conference and the basic facts of the crime. They also answered

skate by shuffling along the ice while pushing a box along to keep his balance.

"I hated it at first," says Meek, "but then I began to like it a lot."

Meek has done far more than just enjoy his talent, though. He has become an upper echelon speed skater, competing on a national level, and often times against opponents two, three, or even four years older than himself.

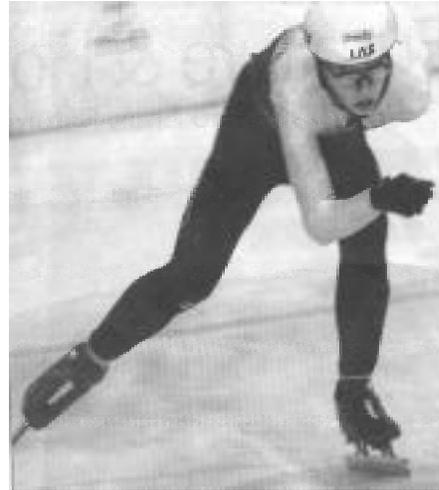
"I really like competing against people who are older than me, and who think they can beat me. Although some of them do, I really like to see the looks on most of their faces when they don't. What can I say? I love it."

Recently Meek was featured in an

article in the *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, competed in the U.S. Speedskating Championship, and has been invited to work out this

summer with the United States Junior Olympic team in Columbus, Ohio. Meek has even been offered year-long residency in Columbus.

Of course, when speed skating comes to mind, so does the grandest stage in the world, the Olympic games. His idol is Andy Gable, an Olympic medal winner, and perhaps the best speed skater ever.



Meek works on his stride before the nationals.

COURTESY OF THE ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Although his future in the sport seems promising, Meek keeps the same low-key approach whenever questioned about his future in the sport: "It's still too early to tell."

questions from the audience. One such question was how an act of clemency or a stay would benefit society. They pointed out that it costs less to imprison someone for life than to execute them. Conway also stated that our "only option is our response, but no one is arguing that it wasn't a brutal crime."

In 1991 Robin Kerry, 19, and her sister, Julie Kerry, 20, were attacked by four young men, raped, and pushed off the Chain of Rocks Bridge into the Missouri River 90 feet below. Julie Kerry's body was recovered three weeks later, 200 miles downriver. Robin Kerry's body was never found. One of the four men pleaded guilty to second degree murder and received a 30-year sentence in return for testifying against the others, all of whom were sentenced to death in separate trials.

The Amnesty speakers defended their position of requesting a stay or act of clemency in multiple ways.

They first pointed out that "the United States has signed international treaties that forbid the execution of minors, but they still do so."

Richardson's reported IQ of 73 is only three points higher than what is considered a minimum of normal intelligence. When he was tested, he did not know what state or country he lived in. He did not know that summer follows spring.

Legislation pending in the Missouri Legislature would exempt the mentally retarded from the death sentence. The bill is expected to pass. If it were applied retroactively, Richardson would easily qualify for exemption. They also men

see AMNESTY, 9

Solid Lacrossebills look forward to '01

Matt Snively
Sports Editor

After an early playoff exit last year at the hands of CBC, the SLUH lacrosse team spent its summer and fall laying the groundwork for a season that should cement their place as one of Missouri's elite lacrosse clubs. Players went to summer camps, played in indoor leagues, and shot around with friends.

Organized running practices have been going on since the beginning of February, giving the team a base most other teams will be lacking. All this adds up to what is promising to be one of the



The cold weather has not stopped the team from practicing in Forest Park.

club's best seasons ever.

This year, the team has a strong nucleus of senior leadership, since many of the seniors are returning varsity players from last year, wiser and more skilled from their experience.

Captains Mark Bittmann and Dave Willard look to provide a strong scoring threat, while senior attackmen Brandon Costello, Ryan Sickles, John Kennedy, and Tom Schmidt plan to burn up defenses around the league with their combination of stick skills and toughness.

Kennedy said, "We really have a solid team this year, and I think we can come away with a successful season and a good playoff run."

Strong support from underclassmen this season is expected as well, as juniors Nick Brescia and Matt Diehr will add two-way play to the midfield, and sophomore sensation Matt Hof will be lighting up the net from the attack.

Junior Mike Lewis provides solid goaltending, and has the experience and the talent to be a top goalie in the league. He has been playing for SLUH since the eighth grade, and has consistently shown an uncanny ability to foil even the quickest of offenses. He will be supported by a solid defense, led by seniors Scott Casey and James Wright.

"I know we have the offense to score, and we're going to have the defense to stop other teams, and we have the goalie," said head coach Barrett Smith, commenting on the team's outlook for the season.

The team begins its quest for the state championship on Tuesday at 4 p.m. at Compton Drew, when they take on Hazelwood Central, so come out and support them.

Riflers finish season 7-0, break records

Jon Neff
Reporter

An indoor rifle team typically needs three things to shoot good scores: a regulation range, quiet, and most importantly, light. At the Mid-America High School Championships in Kansas City the team had none of the above. First, they shot from over sixty feet, instead of the regulation fifty. Second, in the range above them, there were other shooters firing large caliber pistols, which are extremely loud. Third, the lighting in the range consisted of three sets of fluorescent lights, which made the range so dark that SLUH's shooters were having trouble seeing the targets through their sights.

"These are quite possibly the worst conditions any smallbore (rifle) shooter could ever face," said coach Michael Baron. The SLUH varsity team was sub-

ject to all of these conditions while other teams in the match shot in a better lit, quieter, and properly configured range.

In their last match of the year and the last match of their SLUH careers for seniors Jon Neff, Bill Everding, and Todd Mazurkiewicz, SLUH competed against four other teams from military schools in Kansas and Missouri. Illinois' Quincy High School was supposed to participate, but withdrew.

After the varsity team of Neff, Everding, Mazurkiewicz, and Giles Walsh finished shooting, they were disappointed with the conditions of their final match and with their performances due to the conditions.

So, even though they would shoot twice the number of shots as the other teams in the match, they decided to ask to reshoot their scores in the better lit range.

They took an hour break and came

back to shoot again. While their score of 2096 was nowhere near the 2160 they shot two weeks earlier against Quincy, they still won the match by a considerable margin. In fact, SLUH's four varsity shooters took the top four spots respectively. As it turns out, their original score would have won the match, so there was no need to reshoot.

The score was not the true motivation for asking to reshoot the match, though. For a team that has broken almost every major school record and was undefeated on the year, shooting under the original conditions was not the way they wanted to end this season.

The team finished its season with a 7-0 record, numerous broken records, and a chance at winning the national championship. In August they will find out their national ranking and see if they have won.

March 9, 2001

WORKING NO MORE

(from 1)

Dunsworth and his staff immediately after an incident on the evening of Mar. 1.

Last Friday, the administration fired everyone on the theatre technical staff payroll. As a result, the remaining volunteer members of the crew resigned.

"The cause of our demise," said Dunsworth on Wednesday, "was a bonfire on the loading dock" on the south side of the theatre, "combined with a small 'the musical is over' celebration." The fire, he said, caused the building near the dock to smell like smoke, causing "a bit of panic" Friday morning.

Specifically, according to Vice President of Administration Brian Sweeney, those involved built a fire in a can on the dock and proceeded to throw aerosol cans into it, one participant even venturing close to the blaze wearing a welder's mask. The fire, he said, was no more than six feet from the building; the entire incident was captured on a security video.

"Open burning is illegal in the city," Sweeney said. "At best it is irresponsible...potentially very dangerous, and (their) safety was in jeopardy."

"We are not angry at the school," Dunsworth said. The administration "has a right to be upset, and punishment may be in order." He called the firing of staffers who were not present "a knee-jerk reaction and uncalled for."

Sweeney was reluctant to talk about

the justification for firing staffers not present, yet he stated those fired could reapply next year if they wish.

Most crew members, however, say they would have quit if they were not fired. "We had an attachment to Tom. We liked his style," said Ziegler. "I have no inclination to work anymore because of this."

Said Dunsworth, "It is easy to see why (students) would feel that way. For the seniors I could see them following through with it, considering the time of year. For the underclassmen, I would suggest that if theatre is what they love, they should go back."

The loss, for all intents and purposes, of the entire technical staff is a major blow to the theatre, but, "We'll just keep right on moving," said theatre teacher and Dauphin Players director Joe Schulte.

Of the administration's treatment of the offending staffers, Dunsworth said, "the problem is there has been no previous punishment. We constantly received mixed signals from the administration.

"If, in the past, we had been seriously reprimanded by a unanimous decision, and we continued to break...rules...then we would deserve our punishment."

Dunsworth cited what he thought was the most unfortunate aspect of the events: "I think the students are...the real losers in the situation. SLUH has spent a considerable amount of money and we have in-

vested years to create an experience for the students that is close to professional theatre as possible and that has now been taken away."

"We were willing to overlook" such misbehavior in the past, said Sweeney. "We felt Tom and his crew...did some good work in the theatre. He was concerned about safety.

"But (we) couldn't look the other way—this was endangerment. It is unfortunate it came to this."

According to Schulte, the theatre department has hired two new staffers, who will be sufficient for the rest of the year, in addition to new student volunteers.

Also, over the summer, the department will try to hire more staffers to support large productions next year.

"It was naturally disappointing to learn that such irresponsible behavior had taken place in our theater, under the supposed watch of our department staff," said Theatre teacher Kathryn Whitaker. "My hope is that the spirit essential to the making of good theatre is restored in the department and that cliquishness is abandoned for good."

Schulte will teach the remaining quarter of the Technical Theatre course, which Dunsworth taught.

"I hope students who decided to quit would, if they still like theatre, come back...but not for any other reason," he concluded.

AMNESTY

(from 7)

tioned that Richardson voluntarily called the police and, even though his co-defendants had already received the death penalty from prosecutors because he may have been influenced by a civil rights activist. They said that the victims' mother requested clemency, but she was the only family member to do so.

An official from the Amnesty International U.S. head office was supposed to come to the presentation, but he or she did not show; Rakel assumed that he or she could not fly to St. Louis because of the recent snowstorm in the Northeast.

Cobb and Koenig spoke about the large volume of letters sent to Holden and read an example by a freshman from Ursuline Academy, as well as reiterating the points made by Rakel and the senior from John Burroughs High School.

Both KSDK Channel Five News and KTVI Channel Two News covered the event. Last week, a similar press conference was held in Jefferson City. Conway said that although they were appealing to Holden, they did not receive a response from Holden and do not expect to receive one. Coldren said that despite the recent stay of the execution by the Missouri

State Supreme Court, she does not think that the situation is much better for Richardson, as "Governor Holden could have ended the execution [himself], but he left it to the court system" to consider a new motion made by Richardson's lawyers.

Since they could not consider it before the 12:01 a.m. deadline, the Missouri State Supreme Court issued the stay.

Coldren said that the conference at SLUH was at first "a little disorganized, but the presenters had good information." She also said that she was "pleased with the number of students" at the conference.



Calendar

Mar. 9 - Mar. 30

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

Schedule #1
Fast Friday
Senior Mom Prom

SATURDAY MARCH 10

Placement Test for class of 2005
Grade School Math Contest
Sophomore Day of Service

MONDAY, MARCH 12

Schedule #1
Fr. Class Meeting
Meeting for class of 2005

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

Schedule #5
Faculty Meeting 1pm
Lx: V/Jv @ Hazelwood Central @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Third Quarter Exams
Free Dress Down Day

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

Third Quarter Exams

Free Dress Down Day
Rosary in Chapel

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

Third Quarter Exams
Free Dress Down Day

SATURDAY MARCH 17

ACES Mixer

SUNDAY, MARCH 18-25

Spring Break

MONDAY, MARCH 26

Schedule #1
Fourth Quarter Begins
Grades Due
Lenten Reconciliation
Lx: V vs. Highland Park @ Compton
Drew @ 3:30pm

TUESDAY, MARCH 27

Block Day
Registration for AP Exams Due
Senior Kairos Retreat
CSP Retreat

Lenten Reconciliation
Tr: MCC Relays @ 4:00pm
Vb: V @ Chaminade @ 5pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

Block Day
Lunch Period Switch
NHS Teacher Lunch
Lenten Reconciliation
Bas: V vs. Mehlville @ Heine Meine @ 4pm

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Schedule #1
Fr. English Tutorial
Rosary in Chapel
Basketball Meeting
Lenten Reconciliation
Lx: V/Jv @ DeSmet @ 4pm

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

Schedule #1
Fast Friday
Fire Drill
Cashbah Preview party
Students Return From Moscow
Lenten Reconciliation

Prep News Readers' Contest Results

Here are the results
of the first Prep News
Readers' Contest.

Congratulations to
the winners.

Actual time of
Announcements for February:
Seconds: 8091.5 seconds
Minutes: 134, 51 seconds
Hours: 2 hours, 14 minutes,
51 seconds

First Place: Tony Cognata,
126 minutes, 54 seconds.
Second Place: Bryan Cordes,

125 minutes.

Worst Overestimation: Kevin
Rose, 7 hours, 29 minutes.
Worst Underestimation: Steve
Krumrey, 71 minutes, 39
seconds.

Number of class periods which
could have occurred rather
than announcements: 2.996.

Number of times one could
listen to "I Touch Myself"
instead of listening to
announcements: 136.12

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR SALE: New Basketball shoes.
The shoes are various sizes, blue with
white trim, or white with blue trim. They
will be sold for a great price. If you are at
all interested in purchasing this quality
footwear, contact Don Mauer.

Only three weeks until Mar. 31, when
we "Go For Baroque." Some of the more
recent acquisitions which will truly be
worth the price of a ticket include: White
Water Canyon Trip on the Colorado River,
2002 Winter Olympics Package, Notre
Dame Football Weekend Package, Flat
Screen Sony TV, tickets to the 2002 U.S.
Open in Tulsa, an outdoor experience trip
including kayaking and mountain biking,
TV and VCR with a Sony Playstation 2,
and a graduation package which includes
17 seats at Powell Hall and free parking.
There will be 150 grab bags available.