

**Forum:** '97 grad responds to last spring's anonymous letter, *see page 3*

**Feature:** Tom Brandy, part of the SLUH community since 1946, *see page 11*

**Sports:** Gridbills win on last second field goal by Greg Scott, *see page 8*

St. Louis University High School

# Prep News



*"If nothing else, value the truth."*

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Issue 3

## SLUH qualifies 19 students for National Merit semifinalist status

**Andrew Ivers**  
Assistant Editor

Last Wednesday, the names of the National Merit Scholarship semifinalists were publicized; the list included 19 U. High students. Although a step down from last year's 26 semifinalists, administrators agree that the number is still impressive.

The process of becoming a semifi-

nalist begins with the Pre-Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT), which was administered on October 12, 1999. Of all the test scores, the students in the top one half percent are deemed National Merit semifinalists.

Considering that having 5 or 6 semifinalists from one school is usually considered an impressive feat, SLUH has been phenomenally successful. Some success may be attributed to the fact that,

like many area schools, SLUH requires both juniors and sophomores to take the PSAT, even though sophomores are not eligible for National Merit.

Giving the sophomores the test "removes the surprise of the test format and [reveals] areas to improve [on]" according to Principal Robert Bannister.

However, many schools with high-scoring students do not require sopho-  
*see NMSQT, 10*

## Class of 2000 ACT scores garner national attention

**Kevin Moore**  
Core Staff

Each year, as aspiring Jr. Bills try to narrow their college search, an important part of the process is taking the ACT test. St. Louis U. High students typically perform well on the test, and the class of 2000 proved to be no exception, even meriting national attention.

Receiving an average Composite Test Score of 27.8 (out of 36), the class of 2000

ranked 11th in the country out of 8,465 schools with 30 or more people taking the test. Considering that the average com-

posite score in the U.S. last year was a 21.0, and the Missouri average was not much higher at 21.5, the SLUH average is a great accomplishment.

It is, in fact, so impressive that a representative from the ACT recently visited SLUH to gather information for a feature article on SLUH that will be put in the  
*see CLASS ACT, 4*

### Class of '00 ACT statistics

*Average Composite: 27.8*

*National Average: 21.0*

*Missouri Average: 21.5*

*SLUH Participation: 94%*

## New iMacs for science classes

**Andy Neilsen**  
Reporter

Deep in the recesses of the third floor science wing, Eric LaBoube and others of the science department have a secret—one being slowly revealed to the science classes of SLUH.

Over the summer, the science department acquired twenty iBooks along with with twenty LabPro interfaces, a computer base station, and a variety of data collection devices. These data collection devices can measure anything from velocity to human respiration. The base station houses the twenty laptops, recharging and offering storage for the

*see iMAC, 12*

# Bugnitz visits Japan as Fulbright Scholar

**Raj Joseph**  
Assistant Editor

This past summer, St. Louis U. High art teacher Joan Bugnitz earned a Fulbright Memorial Scholarship to teach in and explore Japan from June 18 to July 11. She visited grade schools, high schools and colleges in both major cities and rural towns.

Former Arkansas Senator J. William Fulbright introduced legislation in 1946 to establish the Fulbright program that, according to the U.S. State Department, is designed "to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries."

The specific program that Bugnitz applied for is not the U.S.-based program but rather a memorial fund established in 1996, the fiftieth anniversary of Fulbright's initial legislature by the Japanese government. The Japanese government fully funds it, but it is administered through the Fulbright Foundation and the International Institute of Education.

They selected a high school or elementary teacher from each of the fifty states to be exposed to "[Japanese] culture, history, art, education, as much as possible in three and a half weeks," said Bugnitz.

Bugnitz learned of this program through her high school chemistry teacher. The application process thus began with two essay questions and then an interview over the telephone.

Her first essay dealt with the relationship between art and nature; her second essay commented upon art and academics. She commented, "The Japanese aesthetic is so deeply rooted in nature. I discussed this in terms of my own work, which is also heavily influenced by designs found in nature. My second essay dealt with the impression that many westerners have that the Japanese value the arts as highly as the sciences. I dis-

cussed this in terms of my own teaching of art in a school that is so highly academic, and a desire to find a balance [between the two]."

After her phone interview in mid-February, the program administrators in-



Bugnitz poses with her class in Japan

formed her on April 4 that she had been one of the teachers selected from about 2,700 applicants nationwide. Other teachers selected included a biology teacher who visited Japan's national parks and a P.E. teacher who concentrated on exposure to the martial arts.

On June 19, the group of teachers landed in Tokyo, the capital of Japan that has a population of nearly 12 million people. The group then split up into smaller groups which traveled to ten different cities. Each smaller group went to only one city of those ten before reconvening in Tokyo, their departure point. Interpreters, Palm Pilots, and a handful of Japanese and English phrases helped ease the language barrier.

When the group arrived at their hotel in Tokyo, each teacher was greeted by a former Fulbright Scholar. Hishao and Hiroko Safaki, a married couple, welcomed Bugnitz. Through his Fulbright scholarship in the mid-1950s, Hishao was able to study journalism at Columbia University. He then went on to cover the Vietnam War, the U.S. civil rights movement, and the 1968 Democratic National Convention held in Chicago, Illinois. Hiroko was an illustrator with whom Bugnitz discussed art during several eve-

nings. Over the next few days, she learned about *mugawappa*—the Japanese woodcrafts—interior design, fabric design, and woodblock printing.

Bugnitz recalled that one of the highlights of Tokyo was seeing the works of world-renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright, such as a school building solely designed by Wright and another school building co-designed by Wright and Japanese architect Arato Endo in 1921. Part of her proposal to go to Japan was to find where Japanese and American influence meshed. She said that for teaching purposes at SLUH, she could now compare slides of these buildings with slides of a building in Springfield, Illinois, designed by Wright.

She mentioned visiting the largest volcanic lake in Japan and a baseball game in which there were rules designating times when fans could cheer. Other cultural events she saw included traditional Japanese musicians, three-foot-tall puppets called *bunraku* that were operated by three people at one time, *kabuki* theater, and traditional tea ceremonies.

After a nine-day stay in Tokyo, she left the urban environment and traveled to northern Japan to the rural city of Odate in the prefecture [Japanese version of a state] of Akita. In both public and private schools, class sizes were relatively large compared to SLUH; in Japan, the student to teacher ratio is about forty students to one teacher. However, students are disciplined enough so that no janitors are hired at schools. Students pick up after themselves, and no moderators are present at after-school activities.

Other differences between a typical Japanese school and an American school include the fact that the Japanese schools recently decided to cut back on both the number of days in an average school week and school year. Classes are now five days a week instead of six. Summer vacation used to be only during the month of Au-

see **BUGGIN'**, 5

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Alumnus discusses homosexuality debate at SLUH

To the students and faculty of SLUH:

I write as a former student, from the class of 1997. I am writing to the *Prep News* in response to an article and a letter to the editor printed in Volume LXIV on April 28, 2000. Though much time has passed, and the situation described in that issue, as well as the school I remember, may have changed since its release, I feel compelled to give some alumni insight.

It would seem by coincidence that in the same issue that an anonymous student called out for tolerance and acceptance, an article contained within described a debate held on the pros and cons of allowing a support group for homosexuals. I have belonged to just such a group while attending Truman State University, not because I am a homosexual, but because I have had questions about myself that I can only assume all human beings have as they mature. The group is called Prism, and never has it "ruined" my years here, as one student seemed to suggest such a group might.

Assuming only earnest intentions on behalf of that student, I must remind him that what "ruins" anyone's time when they seek to understand their own identity is the rejection felt by others. It is not only convenient but dishonest to suggest that a homosexual or someone unsure of his identity somehow deserves the hate he receives and the fear he feels. We cannot accept such a notion any more than we should consider a sexy dress excuse for rape. On the contrary, we all must be held responsible for our actions, good and bad, and be ready to answer for them.

It further distresses me that some would want to deny the creation of such a group based on the misunderstood notion of Catholic Church orthodoxy. I do not suggest dismissing the Catholic foundation on which the school is built, but I think you might be surprised by how many homosexuals long to remain a part of their spiritual communities.

However, I cannot accept that living as a true Catholic demands that we deny any "subversive" notions consideration. Yes, form an "atheist club" and then a "pro-choice club." If arguments exist against either atheism or the pro-choice ideol-

ogy, students should confront one another in the spirit of fair and open discussion, not totalitarian attempts to control the student mind. But this is missing the point anyway. Homosexuality exists as clearly as left-handedness exists. Genetic or not, moral or amoral, homosexuals cannot be willed away simply by refusing to acknowledge their existence.

If support is not organized through the school, intolerance will foster in its absence. Reading the anonymous letter took me out of my comfort zone. I had forgotten that so many of my best friends almost certainly lived in fear for the majority of their youth: fear that they might be found out, ostracized, kicked out of their homes, beaten, or even killed. These are people that I love, people who make my life better by their presence, and people I cannot bear to think of as ridiculed, mocked, or threatened on a regular basis. Now is not the time for paranoia about who might be gay, and who might make you feel uncomfortable because you cannot or will not try to understand them.

Now is the time to consider all those whom you consider friends, close friends, those you do not want to forget, and then consider the possibility that every day of that person's life is lived with anxiety. Sexuality has never been easy for anyone (maybe that is why we cannot stop thinking about it!), but a challenge is before us all, and I would like to know that the school that taught me so much will continue to teach itself as well, taking these issues head on, honestly and in the spirit of love and mutual respect.

It need not be done alone, and it need not be unfairly biased in any direction. Resources exist everywhere. I encourage you not to bypass this opportunity. SLUH will not lose by supporting its own. It will not be easy, admittedly, but growing up never is.

Sincerely,  
John Halski, '97  
Senior, Philosophy & Religion Major  
Truman State University

## See thanks Senior Advisors

To the editors:

We are well into the school year and the pace of life has picked up dramatically for teachers as well as students. But before the Direction Day memories fade, I would like to thank the seniors who participated in them one last time.

The seniors had to take a portion of their Sunday and come to school for training. This was to prepare them for leading approximately twelve freshmen. They took their training seriously, and it paid off. The seniors were attentive to the freshmen

and very selfless. They seemed to be excited about making direction days the best possible experience for the freshmen involved.

Seniors, carry this same spirit into the rest of the school year for all to see. Thanks for the great leadership.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Dan See

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## STUCO says "Thank God for Sunday"

Why the headline, one might ask? Well, if you're a Jr. Bill, you'll have homework this weekend. Since Friday and Saturday are jam-packed with sports and spirit, you'll need some day to do homework (excluding Monday morning).

Your fun-filled weekend of screaming, "U. High! U. High!" begins tonight at 7:30 at Chaminade when the Gridbills take on Satan; I'm sorry, I meant the Red Devils (a.k.a the Flyers, and before that, the Cardinals). Since CCP can't decide on a nickname, let's show those North Face-clad preps over in C-World what the heck a Billiken is.

Don't let your post-game victory soiree last too long, because you'll have to get up pretty early Saturday morning to cheer on the cross country team at the Hazelwood Invitational at Sioux Passage. Dave Godar once said, "Winning ain't easy." He's right. Other things that aren't easy include: being the number one stunna, keeping food out of the STUCO office, making funny announcements, wrestling gremlins, and calling everyone you see a "Hoss."

After we place first in XC, come to the upper lot on Oakland

at 4:00 on Saturday for the Running of the Bills. It's the most fun you'll ever have, guaranteed! (Not guaranteed). We'll head over to the aviation fields in Forest Park for a little kickball tournament, ice cold soda, gallons of blue paint, and loads of fun! (Fun may not actually come in loads.) After we paint-up like Mel Gibson in *Braveheart*, we'll run under Highway 40, down Oakland, and into the stadium to see the Backstreet Bills, a.k.a. soccer team compete with, or should I say *defeat* the Spartans of DeSmet (SLUH West). The game starts at 7:00, but I highly suggest you show up at 4:00 because there won't be any kickball at the game, and kickball is fun. Admission is \$3 (unless you have a SLUH Athletic Pass), which covers the cost of kickball, soda, admission into the game, and an A+ in the class of your choice. (The A+ is not actually covered by the three dollar fee.) Please come to the game and show our Jesuit rivals who has more spirit.

So, I leave you with one question: "WHO LET THE BILLS OUT?"

Paddy Kelleher

STUCO Sports Commissioner

## Dulac family thanks SLUH for support

Dearest SLUH community,

We feel so privileged to be members of the SLUH family. This month marks the one year celebration of Christopher's life since the physicians at Children's Hospital confirmed his diagnosis of t-cell lymphoma and he began chemotherapy. It also marks the beginning of our very humbling family journey and daily prayers of thanks and appreciation for your many gifts of kindness.

We have been so blessed in receiving your continued prayers of healing, your support and visits during hospitalizations and spinal taps, the beautiful cards and letters, and many dedicated prayers shared within the SLUH chapel. It truly makes an impact in our daily lives and in the progress we made

in receiving treatment. By next spring we hope to be finishing chemotherapy. Until then, we will continue receiving drug therapy in five-day cycles every 16 days.

During the first year of school, Christopher commented on how nice it was to be back in school and realized how much he had missed last fall as an incoming freshman, even the simplest of things such as reviewing a class syllabus. In addition to attending all of his classes, he looks forward to videotaping football games for the B-team and becoming more involved in extracurricular activities. We are sincerely grateful. To each and every one of you, our heartfelt thanks.

May God Bless You and Keep You,

Jennie, Jason, Christopher, and Elizabeth Dulac

## CLASS ACT

(from 1) quarterly publication *ACTIVITY*. The publication is distributed to high school counseling departments and colleges nationwide, making the feature being written about SLUH quite an honor.

The feature article is "great press for us...because it has the potential to be seen by every high school and college in the country," said head counselor Dave Mouldon. Mouldon said he believes the high scores are a result of attracting smart students and having a great faculty. "Most [graduates] from SLUH come back from college and say how well the faculty has prepared them," said Mouldon.

SLUH had the highest average out of all Jesuit high schools in the country; the next highest, averaging 27.0, was a school in

Cincinnati, St. Xavier High. The other St. Louis high schools that ranked in the top 36 are Visitation Academy (9th), John Burroughs (14th), MICDS (25th), and Cor Jesu Academy (34th).

What makes the high average so commendable is that 226 of the 240 (94%) graduates took the test. None of the other top-ranked schools in the country had such a high percentage take the test.

"Many schools only allow their brightest students to take the ACT," said Vice President of Advancement Thom Digman.

"When you have that average with that many students taking the test, it is very impressive," said Principal Robert Bannister. "The class of 2000 has set the bar higher for future classes."

# Spainbills live the life

**Dan Butler**  
**Reporter**

In early June, eight SLUH students, accompanied by Greg Bantle and Charles Merriott, stumbled off their overseas flight into the sprawling Madrid airport. The group took the bus to their first hostel, which had a great location at the heart of the city, an area known as Madrid Centro. They spent the next few days getting accustomed to the seven hour time difference. They visited several tourist attractions over the next few days, including a bullfight and a visit to El Escorial, the former palace of the king.

After 3 days in Madrid, the group traveled to Toledo, a small town in central Spain. Tourists dominated the scene, but Bantle and Merriott took the group away from the masses on a hike through the town into the outskirts. After the hike, the group split up to visit the various weapons shops for which Toledo is so famous. After a stop at McDonalds, the guys continued walking around searching for weapons to buy. By the time the group left for Seville two days later, everyone had purchased at least one sword and a dagger or two. Everything was expensive, but most of the shopkeepers were willing to bargain.

In Seville, the two teachers showed the group around the huge city, where they saw the third-largest cathedral in the world. On Sunday, they attended Mass not in the majestic cathedral but in a small church across the street from the hostel. After the Mass, the priest decided to allow the group to climb up the stairs of the belltower to stand on the roof. The panoramic view of the city from the top of the church was a great view, because Seville is one of the largest cities in Spain.

That night, the group spent four hours wandering around the city, trying to find a club last year's group had supposedly found. Eventually, realizing it was nowhere to be found, everyone staggered back to the hostel and went to sleep.

After leaving Seville, the group trav-

eled to the Mediterranean coast by bus. They stopped in Nerja, a small tourist town on the Costa del Sol. Sitting on a bus for four hours made everyone except Merriott and Bantle eager to go to the beach. As the eight students walked down to the water, some were surprised to learn that all beaches in Spain are topless. Five hours later, sunburned and hungry, they finally left the beach to go back to the hostel.

The next night, the two teachers took them to see a traditional flamenco dance. Current junior Dave Henroid said about the dance, "Watching the Spanish dancers was fun and the siesta time was good."

After three days on the beach, it was time to move on to Granada. The group spent the day in the town visiting the alcazar, which was a Spanish fortress. Before the day was over they were on the train to Cordoba, where they stayed in a hostel in the center of the city.

The next day, they visited the mosque, the old Muslim house of worship built hundreds of years ago by the Moors. The Spanish had built a cathedral inside a mosque subsequently, and the group had Mass there. The next stop was Segovia. After wading the town for a few days, they ate at a restaurant which served roast suckling pig, a meal that most of the group enjoyed. After Segovia, the group went back to Madrid for the last day of the trip. An attempt to visit the world-famous Prado museum ended when Merriott realized it was closed. He instead took the group to a smaller museum. Later, they all enjoyed a dinner at an expensive restaurant famous for its prime Argentine steak.

After dinner, the group had a few hours left to roam around Madrid. Rising early the next morning for the flight home, the group was sad to leave. Despite being stranded in New Jersey for five hours by Continental Airlines, the group eventually got home successfully. Everyone on the trip would again like to say thank you to Merriott and Bantle for their willingness to chaperon the trip and for the good time everyone had.

## BUGGIN'

(from 2)

-gust; now an extension of summer vacation back two weeks into July is being considered.

Bugnitz found the Japanese students to be "funny, delightful, disciplined, and welcoming", but noticed that "their forms of self-expression are so (closely) linked to self-discipline that they seem to lack the creative freedom we enjoy." Nevertheless, all high school students must take art and music classes to learn proper techniques, as artists are highly respected in Japan. The Japanese have a term: *Ningen Kokuho*, which means "Living National Treasure." It is a title bestowed on artists about 70 artists who have contributed to the arts. They receive a (lifetime) government stipend, which enables them to work, perform, exhibit, and train apprentices.

While in the prefecture of Akita, she also learned calligraphy and block-printing techniques before returning to Tokyo for two days and then flew home on the July 10. She plans on using slides, prints, and examples of traditional patterns in her classes at SLUH. She also said that she "would really like to go back" to Japan, but the cost is extremely high. However, the Fulbright Memorial program offers a follow-up program to which she plans on applying. Overall, she called the experience "overwhelming."

## ANNOUNCEMENT

On Wednesday, Oct. 4, SLUH students will be released from their normal class schedule in order to participate in SLUH Issues Day 2000, a day designed to raise student awareness and understanding about the issues being debated this election year.

This Tuesday, Sept. 19, all students *except* sophomores will be asked to complete a form during homeroom where they will rank their preferences regarding the proposed issues presentations. Sophomores will receive the forms on Wednesday in homeroom. Students will be notified regarding their schedule for the classroom sessions as Issues Day gets closer.

# New faculty: The beat goes on

*Randy Rosenberg:*  
*Theology Department*

*Ryan Smith:*  
*Science Department*

*Bonnie Laughlin:*  
*History Department*

**Matt McGraw**  
**Reporter**

With the new schedule, the theology department has been hard pressed to meet its new schedule, and many additions have been made. One of these additions is Randy Rosenberg.

Rosenberg, who was born and raised in Florissant, Missouri,

attended St. Louis Prep seminary for one year, until it closed. He then transferred to St. Louis University High, and graduated in 1994.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in philosophy from SLUH needed a job. When Deacon Quinn had a heart attack, Rosenberg subbed for him. He found the job here "very satisfying." He thought the students were very respectful, and Rosenberg says, "some of the best discussions we had were started by the students, not me". So, when Deacon Quinn came back, Rosenberg went off to Enterprise-rent-a-car for nine months. He found that several opportunities were open here. As he puts it, "the desire to teach became stronger." So he took the job. Rosenberg is assistant coach for the soccer B- team and moderator for the year book.

"Couldn't ask for a better job," said Rosenberg.



**Brian Kane**  
**Reporter**

Yet another bright new face in the hallways of St. Louis U. High this year is that of Ryan Smith, a fresh addition to SLUH's science department.

Smith graduated from Rockhurst High School, another Jesuit school in the Missouri Province, went on to attend Yale.

Like English teacher Adam Conway, Smith is a member of the Alumni Service Corps. The ASC is an organization of Jesuit school graduates that make a one-year service commitment to teaching at one of the Jesuit schools in the Missouri Province.

Smith laughed as he said, "I was very much 'encouraged,' and I put 'encouraged' in quotations, because I was very forcefully requested to apply from a priest who's both a family friend and a teacher at Rockhurst, who runs the program. He did a very good job of selling it to me because I'm here right now."

SLUH was Smith's first preference, but it is not his first time in St. Louis, as he was born at Barnes Hospital. Smith commented, "It's kind of neat to be able to peer off at my birthplace when I look out (the window)."

Smith has not yet made a decision as to whether or not he will be staying with SLUH after this school year.

"To the next year, I haven't really given a lot of thought; I'm just going to enjoy my time here as it lasts," said Smith.

Overall, he is very impressed with



**Matt McGraw**  
**Reporter**

Having grown up in St. Louis, Social Studies teacher Bonnie Laughlin knew right away that she wanted to stay in the St. Louis area to teach and was thus excited to accept a job at St. Louis U. High this year.

Laughlin grew up in St. Louis county and attended McCluer North High School, where she was the co-

editor in chief of the school newspaper and co-captain of the tennis team.

Following her graduation from McCluer North, she attended Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois. Of Knox, she commented, "I loved it there; they have a wonderful History Department where I was able to work on many exciting research projects, including one where I spent a summer reading letters written to Abraham Lincoln." After she graduated, she decided to come back to St. Louis and began working on her Master's degree in American History, which she received from the University of Missouri last May. While working on her degree, she worked as a teaching assistant at UMSL and as a writing tutor at Florissant Valley Community College. She has also taught summer school at Pattonville High School.

She found out about the job opening at SLUH from a professor at UMSL and was very excited when she got the job. This year she will be teaching four sections of Global History II. Although she mainly focused on American History in graduate school, she states, "It is nice to be looking at a different part of the world



see LAUGHLIN, 9

## Quote of the Week

*How much higher would the ocean be if there weren't all those sponges at the bottom?*

Ray Manker

see SMITH, 9

# Soccerbills Receive Mixed Results

**Garry Holland**  
Reporter

Last weekend proved to be tumultuous for the Jr. Bills as the CBC Tournament came to an end. Coming off an exhausting 0-0 tie with DeSmet, the Bills seemed fresh and ready to defeat host CBC for the championship. Their enthusiasm was dampened as the Cadets started with a flurry. CBC's throw-in specialist managed to hurl the ball thirty yards to the top of SLUH's goal box, where a cluster of players vied for possession. With SLUH unable to immediately clear the ball, the ball somehow squirted out to a CBC striker who looped a shot over Mark Valdez's head into the upper corner.

With over three quarters to play, the Jr. Bills remained calm and continued to attack. However, the CBC defense held strong as they foiled the offense by intercepting passes and blocking shots. The first half ended with no further scoring, and after some adjustments, the Jr. Bills resumed the attack. Once again the Cadet defense proved impregnable, but with the game winding down, SLUH nearly netted

the equalizer. Frank Simek crushed a free kick which was beautifully redirected for the upper right corner with a flick of

by Peter Bartz-Gallagher



John Doyle takes a corner kick

Kevin McCarthy's head. The SLUH supporters poised themselves for celebration as the shot appeared to be going in, but at the goal line a CBC defender stationed on the post reacted quickly enough to poke the shot aside. The game ended in a 1-0 loss for the Jr. Billikens.

Said goalkeeper Mark Valdez, "With a loss the team is more relaxed, not having the pressure of maintaining a national

ranking...we can just play our game."

The squad returned to action at home Tuesday night in the stadium against St. Dominic. SLUH, inspired by defeat, started well. The team dominated the first half by controlling possession. St. Dominic managed to clear the ball out of their third of the field only a handful of times, and Valdez remained untested. McCarthy almost put the Billikens ahead with a blast from twenty yards out, but the shot deflected off the crossbar. Dan Hartwig, as well, nearly registered a tally, but his shot off a John DiRaimundo feed was tipped away by the St. Dominic keeper.

In the second half the team continued the relentless pressure and was rewarded. DiRaimundo netted what proved to be the game-winner by burying a bouncing ball into the back of the net. Frank Simek added an insurance goal five minutes later by beating a defender eighteen yards out and then sliding a shot into the lower right corner. With the 2-0 victory the team regained its winning ways and will face the DeSmet Spartans Saturday night in an MCC showdown here at SLUH.

## Varsity Polobills sink at Marquette

**Jeff Dueker**  
Reporter

The varsity water polo team met a challenge Friday night in Marquette's pool. They knew Marquette was going to be a possible threat to their goal to go undefeated this season, and Marquette managed to outmatch the varsity team 10-9. The Polobills put up a very noble effort against Marquette, but the combination of bad luck and too many mistakes gave Marquette a one-goal edge over the SLUH squad.

The team did manage to hold Marquette's Tim Patrick, the league's top scorer, to 3 goals, and Greg Auffenberg robbed 16 goals from the Marquette team. Zach Hartwig also had a fantastic five goal game, so unbe-

lievably fantastic that it inspired Coach Baudendistel to say, "Zach Hartwig: He's good."

This unfortunate loss had the varsity



drawing by Mike Garcia

Polobills down after the game, but a few comments and suggestions by Coach Busenhart and many inspirational ser-

mons by Sean Leahy pumped the team up and ready again.

The J.V. squad, on the other hand, continues to dominate in the water. They defeated Marquette's J.V. team 12-1 and show no sign of letting up this year. The Jr. Polobills also racked up a total of 9 steals, and before the freshmen entered the game as an act of mercy, sophomore Superstars Phil Abram and Bill Dahlmann put in three goals apiece.

Baudendistel reported that "six J.V. players are mentally ready to play Varsity, and three of the six are also ready physically, but we can't move them up because they won't get any playing time." But the day will come when this team will play on the Varsity level, and most of the J.V. players are happy with their place on the club.

# Gridbills win thriller at Kirkwood

**Shawn Furey**  
Reporter

Going into Friday night's game against the Kirkwood Pioneers, one could not predict how the Jr. Bills would come back from their loss to Parkway South. But on SLUH's first defensive series, they sent a statement to the fans and other teams that the Football defense is made up of hard-hitting players.

The play that set the tone for the entire game was an option to Kirkwood star Johnnie Walkins. As he received the ball, the Pioneer was promptly hit by a truck wearing number 44. Matt Sinclair's hit put Kirkwood's best player on the sidelines for the rest of the game, and probably the rest of the season.

Remarked one Kirkwood player after

the game: "I have never seen a hit that hard...we are going to miss Johnnie a lot."

The Jr. Billikens scored the first points of the game on a short rush by Zach Schmitt, and carried a 7-0 lead into the half.

While the defense stood strong, the offensive side committed some unfortunate turnovers and, as in the Parkway South contest, once again struggled to score.

SLUH's defense remained tough throughout the game, and the special teams excelled as well. "The special teams improve every game," said Ben Purcell. Special teams provided excellent punt coverage and blocked a Kirkwood field goal as well.

Despite SLUH's tough defense, Kirkwood scored a touchdown with nine

minutes remaining to tie the game at seven.

Continuing their special teams success, a SLUH field goal ended up winning the game. After recovering a fumble, the Jr. Bills moved the ball to Kirkwood's 3-yard line with a little over a minute remaining, and Greg Scott kicked the winning field goal.

Kirkwood attempted a last-ditch attack that was stopped by the still-tough Billiken defense, and SLUH emerged with a 10-7 victory.

Schmitt commented that, against Kirkwood, the offense "established more of a running game than versus Parkway (South)."

Final thoughts came from Pat Juelich just after the final horn: "We played great, tough football! I'm going to get a big plate of ribs."

# Overkamp lifts to gold

**Matt Snively**  
Assistant Sports Editor

While most Junior Bills were sleeping in and wasting the better part of their summer, Senior Benn Overkamp competed in Olympic-style weightlifting at the Junior Olympics in Orlando, Florida. He easily blew away the rest of the field, winning the 207-pound weight class by a margin of 200 pounds.

Olympic-style weightlifting is comprised of two events: the clean and jerk and the snatch. The lifter's scores from each event are added together to form the final score.

The clean and jerk involves two separate motions, which allows for more weight to be lifted, while the snatch is performed in one fluid motion. Overkamp's snatch of 287 pounds and clean and jerk of 330 pounds gave him a winning total of 618 pounds, a total that broke his personal record as well.

The next closest competitor lifted a total of only 418 pounds, so far behind Benn's score that Overkamp's coach, Ed Bielik, said, "I wasn't even paying attention to second place; that's how far ahead

Benn was."

Benn's stellar performance carried his team of 17 lifters all the way to second place in the overall competition, just four points shy of a team from St. Joseph, Missouri. In the process, they beat the hometown favorite, a team made up of all-stars from Florida.

Of his spectacular summer, Overkamp said, "It was a lot of fun. I spent the two weeks before the meet training at the Olympic training facility in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and that was quite an experience."

Summing up Overkamp's impressive performance, Bielik said, "He went into the meet tired (because of his training in Colorado), and competed with a lot of courage, broke two personal records and impressed a lot of people."

Overkamp isn't exactly taking a break now that the school year has begun. In early March, he plans to compete in the Junior Nationals, a competition run by USA Weightlifting. Overkamp placed third in the 17-20 age division at last year's Nationals, but with another year of experience and training behind him, he hopes to improve on his performance.

## B-Soccer Box Scores

### Tues 9/12

SLUH 1 St.Dominic 0  
Goal: D. Mueller; Shutout: R. French

### Sat 9/9

SLUH 4 Cape Notre Dame 1  
Goals: P.Hogan (2), K. Connors, J.Stephens

### Thur 9/7

De Smet 2 SLUH 1  
Goal: J. Stephens

### Tues 9/5

SLUH 4 Du Bourg 0  
Goals: B. Tierney (2), J. Kornfeld, P. Feeney; Shutout: J. Fragale

### Sat 9/2

SLUH 4 Ft. Zumwalt South 1  
Goals: C.Taylor (2), P. Feeney, J. Boland

### Fri. 9/1

SLUH 2 Gibault 0  
Goals: Z. Schmitt, P. Feeney Shutout; J. fragale and R. French

# XC Bills continue to surprise

**Tom O'Brien**  
Reporter

This past Friday, the SLUH cross country team left school during Activity Period and made their way down to the University of Missouri's campus for the 2000 Mizzou cross-country invitational meet. Things were tense before the race because the varsity runners knew that they had something to prove. This was so because all five of last years scoring runners (Ted Snodgrass, Nathan Tower, Murphy O'Brien, Tim Huegerich, and Dan Westlund) have graduated. So for the Varsity, who consisted of seniors Dave Godar, Ryan Hatch, Dan Leinauer, juniors Patrick Leinauer, Tom O'Brien, John Parr, and sophomore Peter Schaefer, it was important to do well. Many teams in Missouri are gunning for SLUH this year because the Jr. Billikens are the defending state champions.

On the junior varsity level Andy Skosky led the squad and turned in a fantastic time under 18:15 enabling him to get his varsity letter as a Junior in his first race of the season. Next for the JV team with a good time was Pat Kim with Chris Cruise and Drew Noblot. Other

junior varsity runners included Geoff Hadler, Kyle Gonnerman, Brian Gilmore, and Jason Towers. The JV team turned in a nice race with a fourth place finish out of thirty teams. Skosky's time also gives him the chance to run varsity tomorrow as SLUH hopes for big things from the varsity.

The Varsity race got underway at 4:30 after the conclusion of the girls JV race. In this highly contended race their were over thirty teams and a total of two hundred and twenty runners including the top contenders in the state. It had all the feeling of a state race at the beginning of the season.

When the race got under way team captain Dave Godar lit off for the front of the pack and stayed in front until he thought it comfortable to back off to his race pace. Godar was followed closely after the two mile mark by Tom O'Brien and Ryan Hatch who turned in a 5:25 last mile, a feat that rarely occurs. At the finish Godar was outkicked by O'Brien by a few seconds but he still held onto a great finish of 26th and a personal best time of 17:01. At the finish Hatch followed Godar by only one

second after his last mile heroics. John Parr was the next runner for SLUH with a time and finish of 17:29 and 44th and Patrick Lienaur turned in a huge race in his first varsity showing finishing 64 in 17:54. Dan Leinauer ran sick but still turned in a good time and finish of 17:37 and 53rd, coming through big for the team. SLUH surprised many a team with their fifth place finish at Mizzou scoring 169 points, only thirty points behind the strong team of DeSmet. Team captain Ryan Hatch said "Ok, well that was great, but now let's go to Shakespeare's."

The SLUH freshmen have won three consecutive meets. Under the leadership of Andrew Linhares, John Oliver and Joe Marincel the frosh have destroyed their competition thus far. The freshman team is comprised of over thirty members, one of the largest in the area.

The next race is tomorrow at Sioux Passage park in North County beginning at ten o'clock. The Paul Enke invitational is a race that SLUH hopes to do well in and show the cross-country teams around the area that this year "is not a rebuilding year, it's a reloading year," comments Linhares.

## LAUGHLIN

(from 6) again." This year she will also serve as one of the moderators for the *Prep News*, a job that has helped her get involved and meet new people. She is impressed at how hard the *Prep News* staff works and of SLUH as a whole.

When asked about the atmosphere at SLUH she replied, "I've only been here for two weeks, but so far I really like it. The students are very energetic in and out of class." She added, "Teaching at SLUH is very different compared to my high school life and the past places that I have taught."

Her plans for the future are to continue her graduate work in American History, and work at becoming a more knowledgeable Global Studies teacher.

When asked of her colleagues in the social studies department she replied, "The

department has been wonderful—everyone is friendly, and they are all great teachers and scholars, which makes talking to them on the subject of history a pleasure."

## SMITH

the SLUH environment; his own positive attitude has not gone unnoticed by the other faculty. Fellow Science Department teacher Tim O'Keefe commented, "He seems to really care about his students."

"I just hope that if I do just stay for one year," he commented, "that the students I was able to interact with remember me favorably and have good memories of spending time with me, and I'm sure I'll have plenty of good memories teaching them."

### XC Box Scores

<b>SLUH @ McCluer North Invit. 9/9</b>			
SLUH	31	Ft. Zum. South	49
CBC	113	Parkway West	165
	<u>Time</u>	<u>Finish</u>	
A. Linhares		2	
	14:36		
J. Oliver		5	
	15:16		
J. Marincel		6	
	15:18		
<b>SLUH vs. CBC, De Smet Tri-Meet</b>			
SLUH	21	CBC	51
De Smet	96		
	<u>Time</u>	<u>Finish</u>	
J. Oliver		2	
	11:42		
J. Marincel		5	
	12:14		
P. DeBrecht		6	
	12:23		

## NMSQT

(from 1)

more participation, so the philosophy is not a guarantee for National Merit greatness.

In addition to the semifinalists, there are a large number of students who received very high scores yet missed the cut-off point for semifinalist status. The cut-off changes from year to year as it is based on a stately average; the process is much like grading an assignment on a curve. These students will be officially recognized as "commended"; Bannister said they "are also very talented young men."

Guidance Counselor Carolyn Blair, who inherited the job two years ago from former faculty member Bonnie Vega, spearheads the semifinalists' efforts toward finalist and scholarship-receiving status.

She begins by greeting the semifinalists and describing the process they need to go through to receive finalist status; semifinalists must produce an essay and a recommendation from their counselor among other things. Semifinalists must also validate their academic ability by scoring well on the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) during this, their senior year.

Those students chosen as finalists are posed with three possible awards. The first and most prestigious is the National Merit Foundation Scholarship, which very few people receive.

If a student does not receive that, he

or she will attempt to receive a corporate-sponsor scholarship; the student may receive this if one of his or her parents works for a corporation which participates in this program.

The final possibility for a student who has received neither of the aforementioned awards is a college-sponsored scholarship, which is "usually more lucrative than others," said Blair. Colleges will offer everything from a full scholarship to a mention to nothing at all.

On receiving semifinalist status senior Peter Bartz-Gallagher said, "It is a great honor which I hope to carry into my college years."

This year SLUH ranked second in the state—which is ranked by number of semifinalists in the whole school—next to John Burrough's. Yet, Bannister made a good point that "if you live by the numbers, you die by the numbers." When judging the students' performance, he said he tries to focus on the fact that "what (the school) provide(s) is the atmosphere where (students) with ability can demonstrate that."

The entire pre-finalist process should be finished by the end of the first semester.

The National Merit finalists will be announced next spring. Bannister reminded that in addition to test scores, essays, and recommendations National Merit administrators look at schedules, extra-curricular involvement, and grade point averages.

## Prep News

St. Louis' only weekly high school newspaper.

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"Anagram"

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## 2001 National Merit Semi-Finalists

*Justin Austermann*

*Peter Bartz-Gallagher*

*Timothy Beckmann*

*Karibi Dagogo-Jack*

*Matt Dunne*

*Daniel Eckert*

*Timothy Elfrink*

*Ryan Hatch*

*Michael Macauley*

*Kevin McCarthy*

*Peter Merideth*

*Mark Milford*

*Andrew Nahlik*

*Michael Nigh*

*Tom Polokonis*

*Matthew Rombach*

*Brian Wallisch*

*Benjamin Wiesehan*

*Ryan Williamson*

# Tom Brandy: Quietly working for 50 years

**Justin Austermann**  
Features Editor

Summer, 1946. World War II ended, the country began to rebuild, and a 13-year-old boy entered St. Louis U. High for the first time. No, he was not a freshman; he was showing up to work.

SLUH maintenance staff member Tom Brandy recalls fondly his first years at SLUH, which he spent busing tables and doing dishes in the old Jesuit Residence, the current “Jesuit wing” of the school. A member of a large family, Tom worked after school and on weekends under the affectionate but watchful eye of school president Richard Rooney, S.J. The salary may not have been great, but at least he “could buy [himself] clothes and shoes.”

Eventually, SLUH administrators caught word of child labor laws, and decided it was best for Brandy to take a couple years off. (No one was *sure* just how old he was, but they were fairly certain that a lad who had to climb a stack of soda boxes just to reach the sink was too young to be washing dishes.) Even decades later, traces of that playful, hardworking little boy can be found in his gentle smile.

After a short time, Brandy was back at SLUH as a member of the maintenance staff...only to leave yet again in 1953, when he went to Korea to serve his country as a member of the engineering corps. Following the war, his return to work at the U. High must have been a welcome relief.

During these early years, as now, SLUH was constantly renovating. Have you ever played frisbee on the upper field? Brandy remembers clearing the six-foot weeds that used to cover the field. And when it was a baseball field. And every other stage of its development for the last 54 years.

Have you ever thought the rec room seems to be from a forgotten era? Brandy

remembers putting the first coat of paint on it after it was dug out. Ever had trouble imagining what it must have been like in 1950 when Principal Robert Bannister, Deacon Jim Murphy, and Theater Director Joseph Schulte were all SLUH freshmen? Brandy remembers even that fearsome threesome. In fact, he recalls the



Tom Brandy, SLUH staff since '46

youthful Joe Schulte bringing his high school sweetheart (and future wife) to class dances. Anyone could guess, but only Brandy can confirm: Schulte was “just as bubbly back then.”

It is hard for many students to imagine the difficulties Brandy faced as a working man supporting a wife and seven kids. At one point, a former SLUH president asked him why he was unable to pay his bills. Completely honest, Brandy replied, “You don’t pay me enough.” Not convinced, the confident administrator asked for the bills, telling Brandy, “I’ll show you how you can make it work on your salary.” Two weeks later, he returned the bills, having found his task impossible.

Brandy left SLUH in 1962 to work at the American Car Foundry. When the foundry was closed in 1982, Maintenance supervisor Ray Manker was quick to re-hire him. Manker describes Brandy as “quiet, friendly, and intelligent...a valuable employee and a close friend.”

Through the 1980’s, the maintenance staff consisted of five men: Brandy, Manker, Dee Byrd, Al Teske, and Al Paterson (who has since retired). Up until a few years ago, when expansion made

the work too extensive, these five “did it all—whatever had to be done.” (Recognize those names? You should; the same men still run the school.)

In 1995, Brandy finally retired, nearly fifty years after he began his career at SLUH. But retirement was not for him. When the maintenance staff could not fill the hole he left, Brandy returned to SLUH less than a year after his retirement. He currently works on the night crew, and says he will “work as long as I can make it. Then I’ll walk away.”

Two summers ago, that walk seemed frighteningly close at hand. In the summer of 1999, Brandy suffered a series of heart attacks. He pulled through with “Jehovah’s blessing—and I’ll call him Jehovah, because that’s my God.” His bright eyes and firm handshake leave no doubt that his recovery has left him better than ever.

During Brandy’s tenure at SLUH, he has made a number of enduring friendships. Of Brandy, Dee Byrd says, “I couldn’t ask for a better co-worker...or friend.” That sentiment is reflected by Brandy: “Dee. Man, I’ll tell you what—I could have another son, it’d be Dee.” Long-time fishing buddies Ray Manker and Al Teske call Brandy “an all-around great guy.” But Brandy himself offers the most stirring summation: “I would do it all over again, just the same. It’s been a wonderful life.”

For over fifty years, Tom Brandy has watched SLUH develop; he has seen both the guts and the glory. We are a school torn between tradition and expansion. We bound ahead while glancing behind. Brandy exemplifies the rich tradition of which we are so proud. He does not explain how we should be men for others—he shows us what it means to be a man. A man who honors Jehovah and loves his wife (his childhood sweetheart, whom he married when he was 18). A man who worked tirelessly to give his seven children the best life possible. A man we can admire.

by Ryan Oldani

## Calendar

September 15 - September 22

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 15**

Schedule #1

College Visits:

Navy ROTC Scholarship Coordinator  
@ Activity PeriodClaremont-McKenna College @ 12:52-  
1:22pm

V-FB @ Chaminade @ 7:30pm

B-FB vs. Chaminade @ 4:00pm

C-SC vs. Edwardsville @ Forest Park #3  
@ 4:30pm**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

V-SC vs. DeSmet @ 7pm

JV-SC @ MICDS Tourney

B/JV/V-XC @ Hazelwood Inv. @ Sioux  
Passage @ 10am**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

Schedule #1

College Visit:

Harvard University @ 10:30am

JV/V-SC @ CYC Tourney Thru Sept. 23

V-WP @ Conference Tourney vs. MICDS  
@ Rec Plex @ TBA**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

Schedule #1

Chinese Dancers Assembly for Frosh/  
Soph @ Activity Period

College Visits: @ Activity Period

Butler University

Colorado College

U.S. Navy

St. Louis College of Pharmacy

Webster University

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20**

Schedule #1

Senior Class Liturgy

College Visit: Rhodes College @  
12:52-1:22pm

Frosh Eng Tutorial @ Activity Period

C/B-SC vs. Vianney @ 4/5:30pm

C-XC @ Hazelwood East Frosh Inv. @  
4pm**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

Schedule B

B-FB @ Vianney @ 4:15pm

C-FB vs. Vianney @ 4:15pm

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

Schedule B

Fire Drill

College Visits:

Bradley University @ 12:30pm

Colgate University @ 12:30pm

Cornell University @ 11:00-11:45am

Tulsa, University of @ 12:30pm

V-FB vs. Vianney @ 7pm

C-SC @ Granite City @ 4pm

**iMAC**

(from 1)

computers.

These lightweight laptops are equipped with 64 MB of RAM and 6GB hard drive, which LaBoube could only describe as "really quick." The computers also have two AirPorts, which allow wireless internet access as well as access to SLUH's network. This wireless access to the school network allows students to save their classwork to the teacher's central computer, making it easier to show classwide statistics on lab reports. Web pages load almost instantly with the new iBooks, and the science department sees many applications in the classroom.

"[The iBooks] open a whole lot of new options and techniques for the science classes," said chemistry teacher Bill Anderson. Anderson's classes will have between three and five labs on the iBooks this year.

The physics classes have already begun to use the computers, using the motion detectors to calculate velocity and gravity. The speed and memory capacity of the computers is very useful for the

computer simulations that LaBoube and Anderson are most excited about. The science classes will be able to simulate lab experiments before they perform the experiment itself, showing students the process instead of just trying to explain it.

LaBoube is also in the process of downloading the ClassTalk system, software that would allow students to input their responses to the teacher's computer at the front of the class, and show teachers the results of the answers. LaBoube was very enthusiastic about this system, saying, "This system will let teachers pinpoint areas where many members of the class may be in doubt, showing us where to concentrate our efforts." However, The system's bugs are preventing the science department from downloading it. The science department has been trying to debug the program, in exchange for the software at no cost.

While the other departments may already be jealous of the science department's new technology, there could be more iBooks in the future. "It is possible that the iBooks will be expanded to other departments," LaBoube said. "But

for now, we are the test subject."

The iBooks did not come cheaply. This stunning new technology costs about \$1600 for each iBook, and \$200 for each of the LabPro systems, not to mention the other equipment. The money for the new computers came from the school budget after it was approved by the Technology Department, headed by social studies teacher Peggy Pride. There is no plan for expansion yet, but the enthusiastic response from the science department may sway opinions.

**2001 Latin Club Officers**

**Consul-** Andy Whiteman, '01  
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