

# Prep



# News

*"If nothing else, value the truth"*

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## Two more principal candidates visit SLUH

**Jim Santel**  
Editor in Chief

Two candidates for principal visited St. Louis U. High this week to meet with various constituencies as the school continues its search for a replacement for Mary Schenkenberg, who will retire at the end of the school year. These meetings come on the heels of last week's interviews with Assistant Principal for Academics Mark Michalski, the only in-house candidate for the job.

John Moran, who visited on Wednesday, is the assistant principal for academics at St. John's Prep in Danvers, Mass., a Xaverian high school. Moran is Jesuit-educated, having graduated from Fordham University and earned his doctorate of education at Boston College. Before assuming his current posi-

tion, Moran taught English, directed campus ministry, and acted as dean of students at St. John's.

Moran said he was very impressed with SLUH.

"You have to be a little dimwitted to miss all the great academic stuff going on around here," he said. "It's been a very welcoming community."

Moran said that as an outsider to SLUH and St. Louis, he would need to take the time to learn about the local environment and the school's needs before formulating any administrative plans. To do otherwise, he said, would be "foolish."

The other candidate, who wished to remain anonymous because his current school doesn't know of his interest in the SLUH position, visited on Tuesday. Currently the

principal at a Catholic prep school in the Chesapeake region, the candidate has also served as the dean of students at a Jesuit high school. He said part of SLUH's appeal was the opportunity to return to a Jesuit high school. The candidate said that before SLUH began advertising for a new principal, he had been aware of the school for its academics, athletics, and fine arts programs.

"There's a lot of very special things going on here," he said.

The candidate said he was impressed with the range of constituencies involved in the selection process, adding that all of the groups he met with Tuesday demonstrated a great love for SLUH. All candidates invited to visit SLUH meet with groups of parents, faculty, and students.

see **PRINCIPAL, 4**

## Five Jr. Bills win Black History bowl

**Pat Lynch**  
Reporter

Five St. Louis U. High students won the fifth annual St. Louis Metropolitan Black History Knowledge Bowl on Friday at Harris Stowe State University. The feat marks the second time in three years that SLUH has won the event.

Juniors Malik Brown, Joe Zanaboni, and C. David Jones, sophomore Marcus Wright, and freshman Mahdi Grady, racked up an estimated team total of 1000 points en route to the victory.

SLUH students also took the top three individual point performances as Zanaboni, Jones, and Brown scored 170, 115, and 110, respectively.

Six other schools participated in the event in addition to SLUH.

"It was a lot of fun, and was a great learning experience," said Zanaboni, who also mentioned the calmness the team felt during the competition. Four of the members



(From left) David Jones, Joe Zanaboni, Mahdi Grady, Marcus Wright, and Malik Brown show off their trophies from the Black History Knowledge Bowl.

of the team—Jones, Brown, Zanaboni, and Wright—participated in the event last year. Head coach and history teacher Tom Zinselmeier believed this composure came from the team members' experience and talent.

Jones and Zanaboni also had another

reason for participating: they wanted redemption for last year's semifinal loss to Metro Academic and Classical High School. Zanaboni and Brown finished third and fourth, respectively, in last year's individual scoring.

The Knowledge Bowl was started in 2004 by current Director of Diversity Robert Evans, who at the time taught at Cardinal Ritter College Prep. Evans, a self-proclaimed trivia nut, thought that a Knowledge Bowl would be "good way to bring a diverse group of people together to learn about Black history, which is American history, women's history, world history, and European history." Evans also said the event would be a good opportunity for students to build bridges with students they might not normally interact with.

## EDITORIAL

### Watch your words

We've all been there: sitting in homeroom, someone starts talking about the weekend. A name comes up, and someone says, "That guy is such a fag." Or we've been in the theater, watching the Christmas Fine Arts show, and some guy is snickering at his classmates, who have put so much time and effort into this performance. We've all seen that guy mouth, "That's so gay" to his buddy. And we have all done nothing about it.

It is truly difficult to stand up in situations like these. It doesn't seem worth the trouble, the ridicule, or the derision standing up will earn you. It may not even seem like a big deal. Call someone out on his language, and there's a good chance he will say, "What's the big deal? It's only a word." He'll tell you you're being politically correct, and being politically correct, as we all know, is not cool.

Last week's anonymous letter to the editors gave every member of the SLUH community a reason to care about seemingly trifling

language, however. The author described a quiet struggle with his sexual identity. All he needed, he wrote, was a little love and support, but he didn't find any in phrases like "Quit being such a fag."

Most SLUH students don't have any harmful intentions in using such phrases, but their speech does have consequences. If SLUH is truly a brotherhood, a community grounded in Christian compassion and Ignatian justice, then students ought to want to look out for each other. There is at least one SLUH student struggling with his sexual identity, and that is reason enough to watch our own language and to police the language of others. It doesn't have to be a big ordeal. Just quietly ask your buddy to use a different word. We all owe it to our brothers to adopt an attitude of compassion and support, so that we can continue to make SLUH a place we're all proud to call home.

## LETTER TO THE EDITORS

### Gilmore responds to anonymous letter

To the editor:

I would like to respond to the person who wrote last week's anonymous letter.

Thank you for your honesty in reminding us that pain exists in this place that so many call home. What you did took no small measure of courage. In many ways, there's no way I could ever fully understand what you are going through. Despite that, your letter broke my heart. Reading what came from your heart, an indication that one of our own is dealing with such a powerful and potentially debilitating set of feelings and questions, made this topic real to me in a way I didn't feel comfortable brushing aside.

I won't pretend our experiences are the same, but let me share a bit about my own feelings about being different from the norm at SLUH, an outsider in a place that I, too, call home. I've dealt with a stutter my entire life. Though I've now accepted it as a part of who I am, there are still moments when I plunge into the dark depths of shame and frustration that hounded me throughout my childhood. Why can't I just blend in? Why must I be different? After a particularly bad stumble as a lector at morning Mass a month ago, I went back to my seat in the chapel and wanted to disappear. I don't remember one thing from the Gospel that followed. I fought back tears. I wanted to go home. Back to bed and hit the reset button on the day. Teachers aren't supposed to be like this, I told myself. These dark feelings are never more than a moment away.

I don't know if you saw 42nd Street, but I wish you had, and I wish you could have had the same tremendous view I had. Not only was I sitting front and center for the most spectacular example of dance I've seen at SLUH, but I got to witness a little bit of the love and support which we all so desperately crave, whether we have the courage to admit our need for it or not.

After the final song, the whole company rushed back on stage to take their bows. As I gave my applause, I thought about what it's

like to be on the receiving end of such a moment. My gaze then fell on one of the male lead's faces, where I saw a look that blended euphoria, triumph, and surely a bit of exhaustion. It was then that I realized that it is in these moments, moments in which ordinary people have worked to create something extraordinary, something beyond themselves, that love and acceptance is actualized. During the moment of their bow, amidst thunderous applause, every actor on that stage must have felt like royalty. And rightfully so.

I suppose my message to you is a message of hope. SLUH is a place that offers opportunities where, at least for a short while, achievements and community can conquer vulnerability and fear. I can't say what thoughts ran through that particular lead's mind when he was lying in bed that night, but for at least a moment, I know that life was good.

Unfortunately, not everyone will always show you the unconditional support you deserve. Along my own path, a minority of narrow-minded people have always mocked me. Their comments rarely feel particularly malicious in nature or intent, but despite that, and despite how much I have accepted and love myself, a small barb always shoots through my gut to a soft, timid, and dark spot. That's just how it goes. I suppose that's just what it's like to be imperfect. To be human.

So how do we hold our head high? How do we keep going day after day? I don't have a perfect answer for you, because the answers don't come easy. But I think you're on the right track: it's through love and support. My own self-acceptance rose from finding groups of people who didn't judge me. A liberating feeling that I didn't have to please everybody. I explored my passions. I listened to those who lifted me up and tried to tune out those who tore me down. I gave worship to a God that I've always been told made me in His image, the same God who made you, too, in His image.

There are a number people at this school who will do whatever

see GILMORE, 4

## 3 wrestlers compete at State RPI bills win at District

**Sam Burton**  
Reporter

Last weekend at the Missouri High School wrestling state tournament, the Jr. Bills did not see the kind of results they were hoping to receive. Of the three qualifiers, only Ben Ludwig won a match.

Senior captain James Barton was familiar with both of the wrestlers he faced. In the first round, Barton wrestled against Lindberg's James Bearden, who had won the previous meeting between the two at the Vianney tournament.

Barton wrestled well and held his ground for the first two periods, but in the third Bearden pinned him at a time of 4:57.

Barton's second opponent was Truman wrestler Jake Amaya, who eliminated Barton from the tournament last year. Amaya started the match like a firecracker, scoring a couple of quick takedowns. Fortunately for Barton, master of conditioning coach Jon Ott had prepared the team for situations like this. By the third period, Amaya looked like a detoothed alligator stuck in the mud, flinging his arms trying to escape Barton.

Amaya's lack of activity should have warranted a stalling call and a point for Barton, but Barton's efforts came up just a little short. Amaya won the match 10-6. "I wrestled as hard as I could," said Barton. "I gave all I could, but they were just better wrestlers."

Senior Captain Ken Homan faced a similar problem. Homan first wrestled Austin Hile of Jefferson City; Hile had eliminated

see **SINGLE(T), 4**

## Corby's sudden death goal sends hockey to semifinals

**Matt Beezley**  
Reporter

When Kevin Corby scored the game-winning goal in overtime against the DeSmet Spartans on Monday night, a long-held breath was expelled from the lungs of the gathered SLUH fan base. Corby's goal vaulted the Jr. Bills into the semifinals for just the second time in the league's 37-year history.

The past weekend was another historic milestone for the U. High hockey club. After defeating the Oakville Tigers in the opening round, the Jr. Billikens steamrolled the DeSmet Spartans in the opening game last Friday, shutting them out 6-0, the largest margin of victory ever over their archrival.

The remarkable feat, however, lay in the fact that the Busiebills scored only one even strength goal. They went an unprecedented five for five on the power play on the night. Junior Jack Berger scored his fifth hat trick of the season, and was one of three players with four-point nights. Corby walked away with two goals and two assists, while senior captain Matt Beezley accumulated four as-

sists, all on power play goals.

The famous quote from *Miracle*—"Pass, shoot, score"—seemed to be the Jr. Bills' motto that night. Junior Connor Quinn notched his first goal of the season on a power play shot from the point. Freshman Jackson Hoffmann unleashed a shot from the faceoff circle, also on the power play, that Corby tipped in for one of his two goals.

Playing with their backs against the wall in the second game of the series, DeSmet notched three goals early, celebrating their first with an over-zealous congregation in front of the U. High faithful. The Jr. Bills could respond only with a second period goal from Quinn in a scrum in front of the net.

**Jared Fechter**  
Reporter

The St. Louis U. High basketball team ended its regular season play this past week with a loss to DeSmet on Friday but began district playoffs on Wednesday with a win over Vianney, moving their record to 12-13 on the season.

Against DeSmet, SLUH really had no answer for DeSmet seven-footer John Brandenburg, who dropped 23 on the Jr. Bills.

The 50-40 loss marked the end of the regular season and SLUH finished fourth in the conference with a record of 3-5 in MCC play.

Wednesday's matchup against Vianney appeared to be an easy one. SLUH had beaten the Griffins twice already on the season and was already looking ahead to the district finals. But the Griffins had other plans.

Trailing 19-16 at the half, the Jr. Bills were not ready for their season to end. For the majority of the second half, the deficit fluctuated between 2 and 5 points.

Vianney had possession of the ball and a three-point lead with 40 seconds to go and SLUH had to foul their leading scorer, senior Jason Smith. With Smith at the line for two shots, all he had to do was convert one to make it a two-possession game. But Smith clanked both free throws and the See Ya! Bills were given some hope. They knew they needed a three pointer, and with 18.7 seconds to go, that's exactly what they got.

see **THREE DOWN, 4**



Junior Jack Berger (left) readies for a face-off against DeSmet Monday night.

Not wanting to play a mini-game, SLUH came out in the third with more energy. Berger scored a second goal early in the period to shift the momentum to the Jr. Bills, but they were unable to bury their chances,

thanks in part to the exceptional play from DeSmet goaltender Jeff Simpson.

SLUH pulled senior goalie Alex Effinger with just under a minute remaining in the third, but were unable to notch the equalizer to send DeSmet home, and lost 3-2.

The DeSmet victory forced a ten minute mini-game, some of the most nerve-wracking minutes for players and fans alike. The Jr. Bills were outshot 9-2 in the mini-game, but

see **ERUZIONE, 4**

PRINCIPAL

(from 1)

As principal, Tuesday's candidate said he would uphold SLUH's Ignatian identity while listening to constituent opinions in order to determine the school's academic direction.

President David Laughlin said the three candidates interviewed in the past two weeks do not represent a definite group of finalists.

"These are candidates who I think are serious candidates who I wanted to get further feedback on," Laughlin said, adding that the school is still evaluating applications and communicating with other candidates. Laughlin said the school may invite more candidates to spend a day at SLUH.

While there is no definite deadline for selecting a new principal, Laughlin said that in the academic community, teachers tend to make their decisions for the following academic year in mid- to late spring, and that SLUH will follow this professional timeline.

ERUZIONE

(from 3)

Effinger came up with several unbelievable saves, forcing the game into a ten-minute, sudden-death overtime.

At the 8:58 mark in the overtime, junior Kevin Corby made his trademark move. On a one-on-one, Corby shifted the puck to his backhand, one-handed it past the defenseman, and placed the puck perfectly between Simpson's pads, scoring one of the most important goals of his life and sending the Jr. Bills to the semifinals. The entire right side of the rink exploded into a deafening roar as Corby was mobbed in front of the SLUH student section, causing a near-repeat of the CBC game when the railing broke under the crazed fan section.

Chaminade, the No. 3 seed in the Challenge Cup, handily defeated Fort Zumwalt West in their series. They were scheduled to open their two-game set with SLUH last night, but the game was postponed to tonight at 7:20 at Chesterfield.

**WEB EXTRA:** See [http://archive.sluh.org/prep\\_news.cfm](http://archive.sluh.org/prep_news.cfm) for a transcript of a Q&A session with hockey coach Charlie Busenhart, conducted by hockey writer Matt Beezley.

GILMORE

(from 2)

It takes to love you and hold you up to be your best person. While I suspect this number to be overwhelming, I can only speak for myself. While I can't promise you that everybody here will accept you for who you are now and who you're becoming, I can promise you *my* love and support.

Know that you're not alone in feeling scared. There's not one person among us who doesn't have insecurities. Not a damn one. I'm faced with mine every time I stand in front of a class.

My email address is [simple—gilmore@sluh.org](mailto:simple—gilmore@sluh.org) —and so is the email address of every teacher in our school. I may be a new teacher, but never will I be convinced that our most important job is to grade papers or correct journals. Those are all branches of our main function—to challenge, love, and support each of you as you grow into men for the world to be proud of.

If you ever want, you can find me throughout the day in the English office. It can often be a difficult road, but you're never alone. Fr. Harrison may have left our school, but he didn't take away a spirit of love. It's never more than a knock away.

Brian Gilmore  
ASC volunteer, English

THREE DOWN

(from 3)

On a pass from Young, senior captain Andy Hill heaved up a shot right in front of SLUH's bench. The three-point attempt banked off the glass and went in, tying the game at 35.

"I picked the right time to get lucky," said Hill. "The bank was definitely open."

Vianney had a chance to get the last shot, but Darrin Young was fouled when he smartly went into the act of shooting immediately after receiving an inbounds pass with three seconds left. With the score tied and only one second left on the clock, Young confidently knocked down all three free throws.

Young led the way for the Jr. Bills, scoring 16 points. On his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, Cooney added an additional 12. However, the difference maker in the game was Hill. Not only did he hit the game-tying three,

SINGLE(T)

(from 3)

Homan from the tournament last season. Homan tried a risky move early in the match that did not work. Hile capitalized winning by fall at 0:47.

Homan's second round opponent was Matt Whitney of Parkway South. Like Barton in his second match, Homan made things more interesting late in the bout. Homan fought hard but to no avail, losing 9-2.

Senior Ben Ludwig wrestled John Eblen of Park Hill in the first round. Although Ludwig put up a tough fight in the first period, Eblen pinned Ludwig early in the second at a time of 2:34.

Ludwig faced Jackson's Michael Riney in his second match. The match seemed to be just like Barton's and Homan's with Riney getting the early lead, but by the second period Ludwig had turned the match around. Now he was the wrestler trying to escape with a victory. The match lasted all six minutes with Ludwig winning 8-5.

On Friday morning, Ludwig was the only SLUH wrestler still alive in the tournament. Ludwig faced off against Troy's Nathan Downs, who took an early lead. Once again Ludwig had to try to come from behind to pull out a victory. After the initial volley of points that Downs scored, Ludwig patiently worked his way back into the match. In the third period, Ludwig tried to earn some near fall points, but in doing so he allowed Downs to turn him over. Downs pinned Ludwig at a time of 4:34.

Even though no SLUH wrestlers placed this year, The MCC still had several top finishers. CBC finished 16th with 35 points and two state placers; DeSmet finished 26th overall with 15 points. SLUH finished with one point, tying them with Chaminade and Marquette for 44th. The Class 4 team champion was Oak Park with 235 points, 100 more than any other team.

he scored all 9 of his points in the second half, willing the team to victory.

Up next for the Jr. Bills is the district final game against Webster Groves tonight at 7:00 at Webster. The Jr. Bills look to avenge their 56-33 loss from earlier in the season. Webster enters the game at 24-3, riding a seven-game winning streak, and without a home loss all season.