

*St. Lawrence Seminary's*

# HILLTOPICS

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Alumni

vs.

Alumni

By: Isaias Godinez

With winter in Wisconsin come the sounds of squeaky shoes and the thud of basketballs on the court. At SLS the Hilltoppers continue to excel through their season. But it wasn't just the Hilltoppers who took to the court on Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. After the conclusion of the varsity basketball game against the Milwaukee School for the Arts, several different teams played in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Alumni Basketball Tournament.

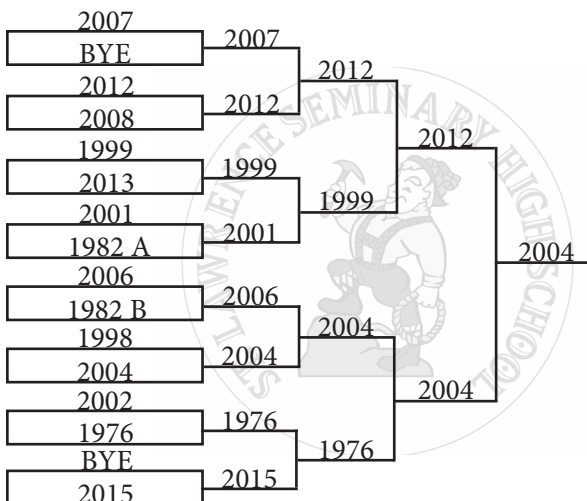
This tournament was sponsored by SLS's Alumni Board, who had heard from alumni that they wanted to participate in something more than just the soccer game held in conjunction with the alumni reunion and the Hilltopper cross country race in the fall. The board's solution was this tournament, which was a single game elimination tournament last year. (This year teams played at least two games before being eliminated from the bracket.) Held in the afternoon, the alumni were invited to attend the varsity game, after which the tournament began. Afterwards, a pizza social was held in the canteen for participants. This year, 14 teams representing different graduating classes registered for the event, proving the event to be a big draw. Mr. Francisco Saucedo, Director of Marketing, Admissions, and Alumni Relations, said, "This event was the biggest draw of young alumni in recent times." The winner this year was the team from the Class of 2004: Jason Tchopka, Chiang Yang, Jason Thorn, Vincent Thorn, and Bryant Romero. Any alumni interested in playing on next year's teams should contact Mr. Saucedo for more information.



The finals between the classes of 2008 and 2004.



The Class of 2004 and their brand new trophy.



CHAMPIONSHIP

## Faith, Knowledge, and Service

By: Joseph Min

Catholic schools have always provided students with excellent education in a faith-filled, safe environment. These unique qualities have set them apart from other private and public schools, positioning them as institutions of strong demand and enthusiasm. This is also true with St. Lawrence Seminary, which proudly boasts its standing as the largest all-boys, all-Catholic, all-boarding school in the United States. In order to celebrate all Catholic schools around the country, the National Catholic Education Association has established National Catholic Schools Week, which starts the last Sunday in January every year. This year, it started on January 31<sup>st</sup> and ended on February 6<sup>th</sup>.



From left to right: Br. Larry Groeschel, Mrs. Shirley Horn, Mr. Lou Wappel, Mr. Dennis Holm.

St. Lawrence celebrated this special week by holding a celebration of the Eucharist and a banquet for all the students on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. Several faculty members were honored for their lengthy service to the seminary and another was honored upon his retirement. Students at St. Lawrence were—and always will be—living witnesses to this year's theme for National Catholic School's Week; "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service."

### YEARS OF SERVICE

<i>Mrs. Shirley Horn</i>	<b>50 Years</b> - Associate Business Manager
<i>Br. Larry Groeschel</i>	<b>27 Years</b> - Supervisor and Dorm Prefect
<i>Mr. Lou Wappel</i>	<b>25 Years</b> - English and Humanities Teacher
<i>Mr. Dennis Holm</i>	<b>25 Years</b> - Biology and Phy-Ed Teacher

\*Listed above is the current service of each honoree, however, each has had a variety of other duties throughout their years of service as well.

## Behind the Scenes

By: Adolfo Mora

When students enjoy a school-sponsored event, they typically solely look upon said event as little more than an opportunity to do something outside of their studies. They often do not see all the work and planning that went into the event. The SLS Student Council is the force behind many of the events held on campus, including Spirit Week, Winter Carnival, and Field Day. Supervised by Mr. Chad Dowland and Mrs. Margie Buelow, the Student Council continues to work vigorously to have events turn out well. Typically, every Wednesday night, the Student Council meets to discuss upcoming events and other needs of SLS. First, the Executive Committee meets, usually followed by the entire Student Council, which includes three representatives from each class to voice their class's opinions and suggestions. Treasurer Brian Tang, a junior, was excited at his election to the Executive Committee because "in order to better the school, you must put yourself out there and do something yourself, not just watch others do it for you."



Junior class representative, John Lopez, exercises his veto power.

How would one get into such an important group of individuals? Every spring, just before graduation, the freshman, sophomore and junior classes elect the members of the Executive Committee to serve the following year. First, one must receive 40 signatures from students and be approved by the Rector to have his nomination approved and his name placed on the ballot. Positions, such as Secretary and Treasurer, have no restriction other than status as either a junior or sophomore. To run for either President or Vice President, on the other hand, one has to be a junior and have had either previous experience as a class officer or have received a Community Leader Award. When voting night comes along, each candidate presents a stump speech to the student body. Students vote for the candidate they believe will be best fit to run the school events. Every vote counts, and students are encouraged not to waste theirs. Students vote until one candidate reaches a majority. This year's Executive Committee consists of President Zebadiah Boos, Vice President John O'Neill, Secretary Timothy Le and Treasurer Brian Tang. Mr. Dowland said, "The Student Council has done a terrific job so far this year. They have thought up so many great ideas to implement at SLS."

## What's on Tonight?

By: Mike Perez

There are a number of clubs that exist at SLS. Each has a unique purpose and membership. One club on campus is the Movie Club, which was started two years ago by Mr. Chad Dowland, the Activities and Athletic Director as well as the club's advisor. The Movie Club is a group of students who meets once a week and searches Netflix and other mediums to find movies that, hopefully, the students will watch and enjoy during future weekends. Mr. Dowland said, "The club's been beneficial for the enjoyment of the student body." Overall, action movies are the best received movies that have been chosen by the group. Anyone can join the group if they ask Mr. Dowland or sign up at the beginning of the year.

**What are some of the most talked about films in the movie club? Here's a few!**



## Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving By: Fr. John Holly

Here we are in Lent once again! People will be asking, "What are you doing for Lent?" or "What are you giving up for Lent?" These are not bad questions, and, if we haven't gotten serious about Lent yet, they are important questions.

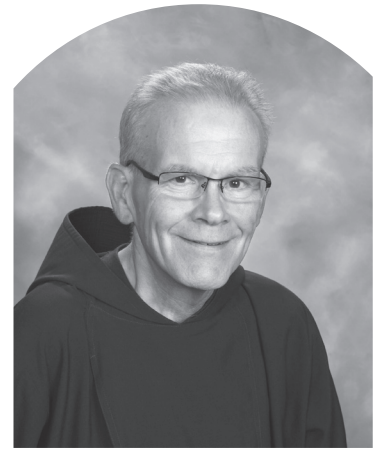
Lent is about PRAYER, FASTING and ALMSGIVING. The readings from Ash Wednesday remind us of these pillars of the season. And we know well that there are many different ways to be attentive to these pillars.

Perhaps, fasting for us becomes something that has nothing whatsoever to do with food! Maybe we need to FAST from inappropriate language, or wasting time, or...you fill in the blank.

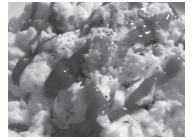
Prayer is always in season, but during Lent it can take on special importance in our lives. How about spending some extra time with Jesus in chapel? A friend of mine picks a different person (family members, co-workers, friends) for each day of Lent and then he prays in a special way for that person on that day. Sometimes, he'll send a brief note to the person to let them know that he's grateful for them and he's praying in a special way for them on that day. Who would you pray for on any given day?

Almsgiving is often about money and most of us don't have any, but maybe Lent is the time that we actually put something in the basket on a Sunday. You're supposed to feel it, it's supposed to be a sacrifice—go without that ice cream cone once or twice a week—it is Lent, after all. But almsgiving can also be about sharing what you have, perhaps helping someone with difficult homework or shoveling a little snow.

We often forget that Lent, and its daily scriptures, are supposed to remind us of how much our God loves us—listen to the readings, spend some time with them...all by yourself!



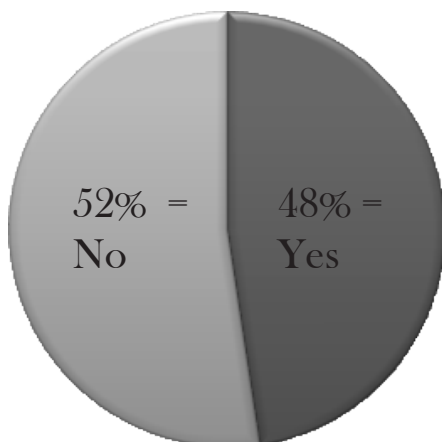
## What Do You Think? Questions on the Hill By: Matthew Mattes



According to Chef Kevin Lackas, the student body goes through about seven gallons of ketchup a week. Where does all that ketchup go? Well, does ketchup on eggs, mashed potatoes, or grilled cheese sandwiches sound good? The students of St. Lawrence were once again polled on what their opinions were on this pressing matter. When given the questions, only some answered "no" to all, others answered "no" to one or two, and only a couple of people answered "yes" to all three questions. Do the results surprise you?

### Eggs

Junior Humberto Huerta, "The acid of the ketchup contrasts the salt of the eggs."



Junior Mark Valenzuela, "Ketchup is too salty. I'm not the salty person."

### Mashed Potatoes

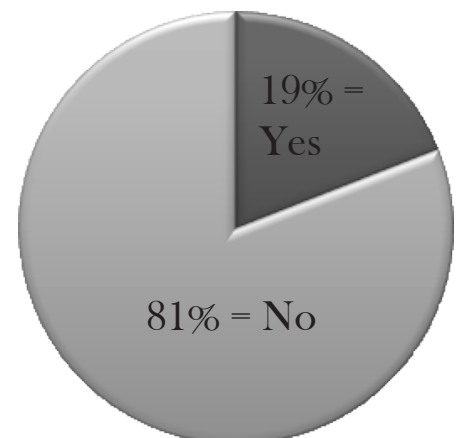
Sophomore Jordi Vazquez, "Ketchup is for fries only."



Mr. Dennis Holm, "It's still a potato."

### Grilled Cheese

Mr. Dave Bartel, "I'm not a ketchup person."



Senior Franklawrence Amaihe, "Nah, man. That's just nasty. Who would do that? Ya'll took this poll too far!"

# Making the Best of Less

By: Andrew Wolfe

For many people, moving to a new house is a stressful event with many obstacles and challenges. With the remodeling and renovations to St. Thomas Hall, Mr. Lou Wappel and Br. John Willger were forced into this tiresome experience. Mr. Lou taught many English courses in the upper part of St. Thomas Hall, while Br. John taught industrial arts courses in the basement. Because of the separation in floors, they each could be as loud as they wanted: Mr. Lou playing music and Br. John using his woodworking tools. However, both teachers had to undergo an extraordinary amount of work to move their classroom materials before the beginning of the current school year, so *Hilltopics* interviewed both to hear what some of the challenges of moving were.

Mr. Lou is the teacher of Senior English, a variety of other English courses, and Post-Classical Humanities. He teaches an extraordinarily large amount of literature; as such, he had a plethora of books, CDs, and artifacts to move. How did he manage it all? He packed his multitude of classroom supplies into over 125 boxes that slowly moved from St. Thomas Hall to his temporary home in the Main Building (his permanent home awaits him in the basement of the new St. Joseph Hall upon its completion). Mr. Lou commented, "It's good to move sometimes," though he did wonder how everything would work out. As he began to unpack in his new room over the summer, he was curious as to whether his organization would be good for the following year, if he would be ready, and if he would be able to do activities without interrupting other teachers (by employing music, skits, etc.). The work in moving his classroom was extensive, but with some struggles he has managed to still maintain his previous teaching methods, only now on the second floor of the Main Building.



Br. John's temporary woodshop has fewer tools and machines.

Similarly, Br. John teaches a variety of classes. However, his involved the industrial arts, such as Woodshop, Mechanical Drawing, and Classical Humanities. One of the hardest things for Br. John to face when he moved was whether or not he needed everything. He taught in St. Thomas Hall for 43 years, and there was a very large accumulation of projects, tools, and sentimental items. In order to accommodate the renovations, nearly all of his machines, tools, and supplies were stored in semitrailers over the summer until he is able to reoccupy the remodeled basement of St. Thomas Hall in one year. Now, he teaches in the basement of St. Fidelis Hall (the gym) and has a significantly smaller work space. Therefore, he has had to use magnificent creativity to maintain high-quality teaching. He said, "You have to do more with less in order to still teach solid concepts." For instance, he has had to make do with fewer tools and materials when teaching students the fundamentals of building. Br. John said, "It still and Br. John went made the best of better equipped and materials when teaching students the fundamentals of building. Br. works well, but I can't wait for the new St. Thomas Hall." Both Mr. Lou through many struggles moving to different classrooms, but they have their situations and will soon be able to move to newly renovated and classrooms.

## Falling Into Place

*There is a story of dreams, workshops, and wisdom that inspired every aspect of the new St. Thomas Hall. In an attempt to present that story, Hilltopics asked several administrators how they undertook a project that will last the next century and beyond.*

We want to be faithful to our benefactors and their generosity. We want to spend our money wisely being cost-conscious in our use of quality materials, etc. We want to build a building that is state-of-the-art and beautiful to view.  
-Fr. John Holly

You begin by gathering together stakeholders to dream what could be. In the case of St. Thomas, this included Mr. John Ahlstrom and Br. John Willger, representative students from music and industrial arts, administrators and various staff persons.  
-Fr. John Holly

St. Thomas Hall has a rich history of hosting performances. Our architects advised us to consider St. Thomas Hall as a viable option for Band and Choir to "return home."  
-Mr. Tim Schroeder

A great deal of time was spent looking at brick color, etc., which would blend. The courtyard side of St. Joseph is more classical, designed to complement the Main Building, while the west side of the building will be much more modern to give visitors a view of our belief in our future, as well as providing a welcoming entrance to our campus.  
-Fr. John Holly

Planning a renovation, large or small, consists of many meetings and A LOT of listening. This is especially so given the history of our campus, diverse needs of students and staff, and ever-changing program needs.  
-Mr. Tim Schroeder

Through the long process of dreaming and determining the needs of the school, it was determined that the best space for music would be in St. Thomas Hall.  
-Fr. John Holly

By:  
Kevin  
Dang

It was apparent during the planning of the St. Joseph Hall's rebuilding that a "new home" was essential for the Band and Choir.  
-Mr. Tim Schroeder

New heating and air conditioning systems, new bathrooms, enhanced practice spaces, enhanced sound systems, renovated industrial arts and fine arts spaces in the lower level of the building and a small exhibit space in the new entrance area.  
-Fr. John Holly

For me, one of the biggest hurdles has been trying to encourage myself and others to imagine the future. We do not want to build what we already have. We want to try and build what we will need for the next 150 years. This is difficult but can be very rewarding.  
-Mr. Kevin Buelow

My belief is that the students, staff, and benefactors will find a simple and elegantly designed space for Band, Choir, Art and Woodshop. This space will pay homage to the past and inspire leaders for the future.  
-Mr. Tim Schroeder

St. Thomas Hall, for me, was a challenge to envision. While I was told the building had "good bones" (meaning structurally sound), it was hard for me to define needs versus wants.  
-Mr. Tim Schroeder

# Who Are They?

*A thankful reflection on what goes on behind the scenes.*



Mr. Vervaeck:  
Development Office—Mr. Vervaeck’s responsibilities all fall under the umbrella of his title: Office Manager. Aside from making sure that everything runs smoothly, he also works with business vendors and mailing companies to ensure that Fr. John’s letters are delivered to donors on time. Thank you, Mr. Vervaeck.



Mr. Cathy Kujawski:  
Development Office—Mrs. Kujawski is a true behind-the-scenes worker. Every week, a ton of mail is delivered that includes prayer requests, donations, and news from benefactors and alumni. Her main job involves totaling up the money received each day before it is sent over to the Business Office for deposit at the bank. Thank you, Mrs. Kujawski.



Mr. Terry Butz:  
Housekeeping Staff—Mr. Butz is seen most days through the halls of on the upper part of campus. He helps clean throughout the main building, but we mostly see him in St. Mary Hall during the day. You’ll see him driving the zamboni as he keeps the floors cleaned throughout St. Mary Hall. Thank you, Mr. Butz.



Mrs. Denise Birschbach:  
Development Office—Mrs. Birschbach’s role is absolutely significant. The benefactors often receive personalized responses from the Seminary, which means that someone has to organize which letters are sent out to each recipient. This is where Mrs. Birschbach comes in—she is the data guru, processing hundreds of thousands of donor records every year. Thank you, Mrs. Birschbach.

Mrs. Claudi Saavedra:  
Development Office—Mrs. Saavedra is a great example of how a diverse community uses its talents. Many letters written in Spanish come through the Development Office, which is where her fluency in that language comes in great use, reading and answering each of those letters. She is a skilled multi-tasker to say the least. Thank you, Mrs. Saavedra.



Mrs. Ann Boehnlein:  
Development Office—Mrs. Boehnlein might be the person who has the most contact with benefactors as a part of the Planned Giving Department. She facilitates contributions with donors, lawyers, and executors when it comes to planned giving initiatives, like wills. She is a caring voice on the phone with many of the seminary’s best donors. Thank you, Mrs. Boehnlein.



**A Prayer of Thanksgiving**  
By: Andrew Wolfe

Loving Lord, you have given us a multitude of blessings and gifts that we see every day. You have given us everything that we have, from our lives, to our belongings, and our talents. But the most important gift of all is the service and love of others that we are given everyday. Help us to especially recognize the blessing of having others in our lives. Help us to show our thanks and gratitude for all the gifts and people who contribute to the joy of our lives.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord,  
Amen



Mrs. Mary Bink:  
Environmental Services Manager—Mrs. Bink is in charge of a range of duties. She supervises the entire housekeeping staff as they manage to keep things running smoothly and looking beautiful. Another duty of hers includes picking carpeting, paint colors, drapes and more for the new buildings. Mrs. Bink’s office is located on the first floor of the main building, and she is the woman who many students know for helping them sew their clothes back together. Thank you, Mrs. Bink.

Mrs. Ann Konen:  
Housekeeping Staff—Mrs. Konen might be most easily recognized as “the lady who used to work in the kitchen!” Now, she is primarily the housekeeper of Saint Anthony Hall, where she can most commonly be seen throughout the day. She keeps supplies restocked in the dorms, and keeps the whole hall very clean and orderly. Thank you, Mrs. Konen.



*Thank you from Hilltopics and the students of St. Lawrence Seminary.*

# What to do for the Winter Blues?

By: Zeb Boos

At St. Lawrence Seminary, there are a variety of methods for curing every different kind of illness. If you're sick, you go see Mrs. McFarland, the student nurse who's got some remedy pill for you. If you're homesick, you have the "super student" remedy (Stay busy, Talk about it, Give it time). If you have cabin fever, well... the best remedy of all is Winter Carnival. Winter Carnival at St. Lawrence gives everyone a chance to beat the winter doldrums, while also allowing for some intense competition to relieve some stress. This entire event is organized and run by the Student Council with help from Mr. Chad Dowland and Mrs. Margie Buelow. Their main job is to determine the events, like the classic cross-field relay, and to determine the food selections for each meal. This whole process is set up weeks in advance in order to make sure everything will work and be set in place.

On the big day of Winter Carnival, students get a relatively late start so they have tons of energy to conquer the day. Students are advised to bundle up right away to combat the wild cold. Next is breakfast, which is usually a special treat that hopefully will not induce vomiting, and then off to chapel to pray to our Lady of the Snows to help us conquer our fraternal enemies. From here Mr. Buelow will tell us to have fun and the Olympic flags will be raised high on the Observatory Tower. Afterwards, the students race down the hill towards the varsity soccer field where the main morning events are held. A new student favorite is broomball which takes place on the pond and is run by Mr. Holm, who is constantly dealing out push-up penalties.

At lunch names are drawn to determine who plays in the basketball game versus the All-American, All-Pro faculty. Students take time to rest after lunch and prepare themselves for the afternoon indoor events. The indoor events include: basketball, dodge ball, bowling, ping-pong, foosball, and video games. The point system for each of these events is determined by the student council. If there is one person who you should thank, however, it would be Mr. Dowland. He organizes everything the student council brings forth and sets up the events in the morning.

Overall, the experience is fun for many, and it is one of the many ways that students at St. Lawrence find ways to enjoy the winter. However, the most enjoyable part about the whole day is when the awards are handed out. The first place fraternity gets a pizza party at Pizza Ranch, second place wins \$40 for a party in the canteen, and third place receives a smaller amount, usually \$25 or \$30, for the fraternity to put towards a party. The amount of the prize is not the important part. The best part is bragging rights and a head start on the way to winning Field Day.



**The Games Begin**



**Soccer**



**Broom Ball**



**Fifa Tournament**

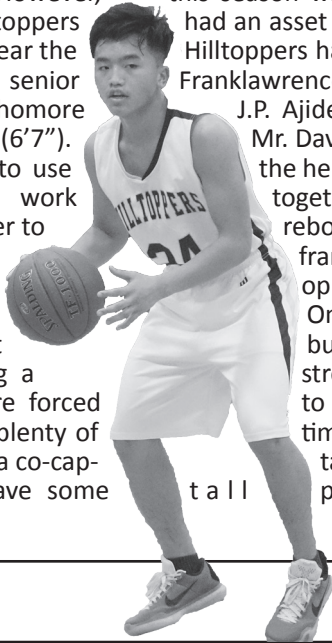


**3-on-3 Basketball**



**Rat Race**

After taking a long, three-week break from basketball, the SLS varsity basketball team was back on the court and getting ready to approach the second half of their season. However, this season was much different than past seasons because the Hilltoppers had height. This year the Hilltoppers had five people six feet or taller: junior Frank Lawrence Amaihe (6'0"), junior Jose Mercado (6'2"), sophomore J.P. Ajide (6'3"), and the tallest, sophomore Marcelino Jean (6'7"). Mr. David Bartel, the varsity coach, said, "We are still learning to use the height in the offense and defense. We're still learning to work together." Defensively, having tall players made it a bit easier to rebound because of their long arms and frames. The height of the team also made opposing offenses think twice about attacking the hoop. On offense, having tall players helped the team get buckets in the paint, the area around the basket. By having strong defenses were forced to play closer to the basket, which gave the smaller guys plenty of time to score from the three point line. Even Richard Lor, a co-captain of the varsity basketball team who isn't known for his height, said, "It feels amazing [to finally have some tall players], but it probably means I won't be one of the leading rebounders this year."



J.P. Ajide (L) and Marcelino Jean (R), the twin towers, stretch before a game.

By: Eric Howard

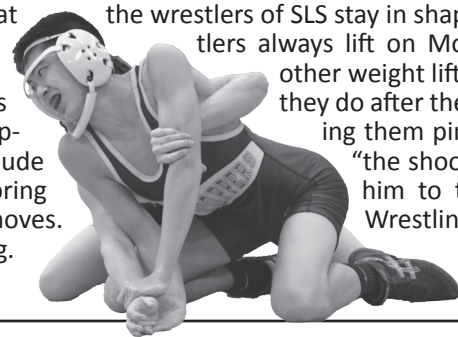


Senior Jacob Prado sets up to pin.

Many people would say that wrestling is all about lifting weights, getting strong, and knowing how to throw people around, but there is one thing that many people do not think about—how much effort it all really takes. Staying in shape, eating right, and really understanding the moves take a great amount of practice, and the wrestlers of SLS always try to do that to the best of their ability.

First of all, how does weight work in wrestling? It is important to realize that wrestling has weight classes into which every wrestler falls. There are 14 of these classes in wrestling; 106, 113, 120, 126, 132, 138, 145, 152, 160, 170, 182, 195, 220, and 285. A wrestler can go up two weight classes, but down zero. For example, a wrestler in the 195 weight class must weigh at least 170, but no more than 195. If a person is overweight, he can wrestle a higher class, but he faces scolding from his coach and his fellow team members. Therefore, wrestlers really have to keep an eye on their fitness level. For example, they have to make sure they exercise and eat healthfully, both in moderation.

One of the ways that the wrestlers of SLS stay in shape is through the program Bigger Faster Stronger (BFS). By following the program, the wrestlers always lift on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and perform a combination of bench presses, squats, and other weight lifts. These lifts help them they do after their lifts. These practices teach the wrestlers the important moves of wrestling aimed at helping them pin their opponent and stopping themselves from getting pinned. Some of those moves include "the shoot" and "the whizzer." The shoot involves trying to take out the opponent's legs in order to bring him to the ground, and the whizzer is a defensive move to block a large number of offensive moves. Wrestling is a sport that might look impossible to understand, but in reality it's simple, but challenging.



By: Andrew Wolfe

**Scores Update!**

*Basketball*

Date	Opponent	Score
1/19	NEWCHAA	64-26 (W)
1/21	Stockbridge	59-44 (W)
1/23	St. John's	53-55 (L)
1/25	Elkhart	36-35 (W)
2/1	Mayville	39-44 (L)
2/5	North Fondy	42-61 (L)
2/6	MHSA	78-75 (W)

*Wrestling*

Date	Opponent	Score
12/5	Horicon	36-47 (L)
12/10	Lomira	3-76 (L)
12/12	Oakfield	36-30 (W)
1/14	Omro	33-45 (L)
1/22	WLA	27-37 (L)
1/25	Horicon	9-72 (L)
1/28	Mayville	57-24 (W)



# What is your Greatest Fear?

By: Joseph Hable



Junior Brian Tang – Trypophobia—a pathological fear of holes

Mr. Lou Wappel – Missing class because I overslept or got lost somewhere

Junior Julian Moron - Claymation movies



Freshman Matthew Tran – Being eaten by wild animals

Senior Aaron Ocon – Large snakes

Senior Dala Iguodala – Huge dogs

Mr. Mathias Hoffman – Being punctured in the eye with a sharp object

Ms. Jamie Stephanie – Clowns

Freshman Michael Nguyen – Having no friends

Junior John Zampino – The dark

Sophomore Alejandro Flores – Losing a loved one to another person

Mrs. Alexandra Auch – House fires

Sophomore Gerard Fernandes – Going to a friend's house for home weekend and forgetting my charger



Junior Stephen Netter – Falling into an endless pit

Junior Matthew Mattes – Bridges

Freshman Jimmy Nguyen – Drowning

Freshman Joseph Nguyen – Skydiving

Sophomore Max Eliason – Dying unaccomplished

Sophomore Jasper Sampaga – Suffocating

Sophomore Adrian Gonzalez – Isolation

## Guess Who!?

A fun, poetic game of guessing through limericks.

If you're in dorm and it's kind of boring  
 You might choose to go exploring,  
 Find a friend named Joe,  
 Or talk to your Capuchin bro,  
 Who, for twenty-seven years, has been snoring

There once was a teacher who taught phy-ed  
 As well as the study of anything not dead.  
 For twenty-five years he has looked for fossils  
 Hoping for something rare and colossal,  
 Until he found a fossil on which his name was read.

There once was a teacher who taught much lore  
 And always had many jokes in his mental store.  
 For twenty-five years his doorway struck fear:  
 "Abandon all hope, ye who enter here."  
 And hope there was never more—only cries of "But wait! There's more!"

There once was a lady known for quantitative care  
 And could even make numbers pop out of thin air.  
 She saw St. Lawrence and thought to give it a day  
 But then God said, getting in her way,  
 "Got fifty years to spare?"

By: Andrew Wolfe and Kevin Dang



# Like Mother, Like Son

It is a commonly known fact that the St. Lawrence Seminary staff includes two members of the Buelow family, Mr. and Mrs. Buelow. Based on those monikers, the immediate assumption of many is that the two are married; however, that is not the case. Their relationship is that of a mother and son. Mr. Kevin Buelow currently teaches German and Freshman Guidance, and he serves as the Dean of Students. Mrs. Margie Buelow serves as the Liturgical Minister and works closely with the ministry program and the Student Council.



**Do you try to keep work and home separate or do you go through the daily events on a regular basis?**



**Mr. Buelow:** The answer to that is a bit tricky. Due in part to both of us being on campus and being involved in a majority of what goes on here on campus, it is almost impossible for separation. SLS is intertwined in both our lives, and, as a result, a portion of what happens on campus does get discussed off-campus.

**Mrs. Buelow:** For the most part, I would like to say that we both try to be as professional as possible regarding school and the home; however, at times it is either necessary or beneficial to discuss school-related topics. A good example of this would be when I need to propose to him an idea from the Student Council. It is very easy for me to do this seeing as how we ride home together, and it allows both of us to get things done in a timely manner.

**Would you say there is a "Mrs. Buelow" mode and a "mom" mode, or are they both one and the same?**

**Mr. Buelow:** I would venture to say that they are one and the same. I wouldn't

say that she acts as my mother, but rather, that she is a motherly figure for the students here on campus.

**Mrs. Buelow:** Again arises the idea of remaining professional in my relationship with Mr. Buelow here on campus; however, I do like to think that I am a mother-like figure for the students here on campus while they are away from their own.

**How did Mrs. Buelow react to hearing Mr. Buelow was to be the new Dean of Students?**

**Mr. Buelow:** Initially, she was surprised and happy, but then later on she was nervous and fearful for my livelihood because, as the former assistant to the Dean of Students, she was well aware of the responsibilities of the role and what it demands of the person who holds the position.

**Mrs. Buelow:** I was excited and very happy for him. I knew he was capable of the demands of the job, but I also was worried



that it would initially pose a challenge as he adjusted to his new responsibilities. Not only do I feel that Mr. Buelow is a blessing for the school, but also that the

school is a blessing for him.

**Do you ever feel bad or awkward asking your mom to do something or having your son tell you to do something, when initially your relationship was the opposite?**

**Mr. Buelow:** I would have to say "no" to that one sim-



ply because it is something I have naturally grown into along with various other aspects of my job. We are both adults and understand that it is just something that came along with me accepting the position.

**Mrs. Buelow:** As his mother I still ask him to do things; however, I respect him and what he has done and is capable of doing for the school. I understand that he is an adult who has his own responsibilities and it just so happens to be that sometimes that requires me to do as he asks in order for things to run smoothly on campus.

**Do you feel you could do the other's job?**

**Mr. Buelow:** No, I don't think I would feel happy or comfortable doing Mrs. Buelow's job. She does wonderful work, but it's not

something I see myself doing. I'm more at home in my own position.

**Mrs. Buelow:** Oh, I do not think I would be capable of doing his job mostly because I'm told I'm too nice to other people. I appreciate how he relates to students, how easily he interacts with them, whether it be in his office or through walking and talking with them. I don't have the heart to discipline others as much as they might need to be.

**Would you say Mr. Buelow is your favorite son?**

**Mrs. Buelow:** I wouldn't say that; I have four wonderful sons. On the other hand, he is the youngest and I can't deny that he was overly indulged as a child.



By: Kamsi Nwanebo

## Extra... Debit?

By: John O'Neill

Finance is a fact of life that seems to take precedence over nearly everything else sometimes. The economy, businesses, and the wealth of the United States have all been built up by a responsible management of money. In the last *Hilltopics* issue, readers learned about the mechanics and use of checks. This issue, the topic shifts to a more modern approach: debit and credit cards.

Credit and debit cards have become so engrained into purchases and shopping that some shops and outlets no longer accept checks, and some don't take cash. It is simply easier to swipe or scan a card and (maybe) enter a PIN. But while there are many people who make regular use of charge cards, there is danger for their users in not understanding how they work.

Debit cards are relatively easy to explain. A debit card is directly linked to a checking account. So, in a way, debit cards are like virtual checks. Debit cards can be utilized as long as there is enough money in a checking account. Another similarity is the signature. Checks must be signed, of course, before they are valid. A debit card's "signature" is the PIN, or "personal identification number." This is a four-digit number that represents a buyer's consent to provide payment.

While there are quite a few similarities regarding the two, a major difference between a check and debit card is that a check will "bounce," or be worth nothing, if an account does not contain sufficient funds to provide payment. However, if a debit card runs through the same scenario, it is more likely that "overdraft charges" will be incurred. These are fees, fixed or scaled, that are piled on top of any purchases that are made without enough money. But with proper money management, a checking account should always be safe from overdrafts. When writing checks, each transaction should be recorded in a ledger to keep the account balance known. Each debit card transaction should also be kept track of in the same ledger.

Quality	Score*
Excellent	760-850
Very Good	700-759
Good	660-699
Fair	620-659
Poor	580-619

\*Credit Scores range from 0-850, with 850 being the best.

Anything below 580 is considered very poor.

which is a bill from the creditor. It will show how much money was spent, how much was due, and the amount left on the line of credit. Large credit card debt is almost impossible to pay off, so take extra caution when using them. Far too many people are sent to collections or forced to face bankruptcy because of credit card debt. And every time this happens, their credit scores drop, making it harder to take out simple loans, like those for a new car or house.

Finance, in the real world, is the motor for nearly everything that gets done globally. In this day and age, credit and debit cards are used very often as replacements for cash or checks. Without care, the cards can lead to financial ruin. But with a basic understanding of how they work and taking caution when using them, these small, rectangular pieces of plastic can be lifesavers in emergencies and tools in growing a great financial reputation.



Senior John O'Neill's credit score is not good enough for the canteen.

Checking accounts back up each debit transaction, meaning that all the money spent belongs to the spender. Credit cards are where this changes. Credit cards provide payment by taking out many small loans. A "line of credit" is the total amount of money that a creditor, credit union, or credit card company is willing to loan to a cardholder. The amounts in a line of credit can range from a few hundred to tens of thousands of dollars. It should be noted that more credit is offered if a "credit score" (or general history of loan-taking) is higher.

Many college students and young adults get into quite a bit of trouble by using credit cards way too much. A credit card does not mean "free money." All the money used on a line of credit must be paid back, often with interest (essentially a service fee based on the amount of money initially borrowed and the set rate for that card). All of this is shown on a monthly statement,

Card Type*	Limit
Green	\$500
Gold	\$1,000
Platinum	\$5,000

\*Above are the most standard types of credit cards. They can be obtained depending on one's credit.

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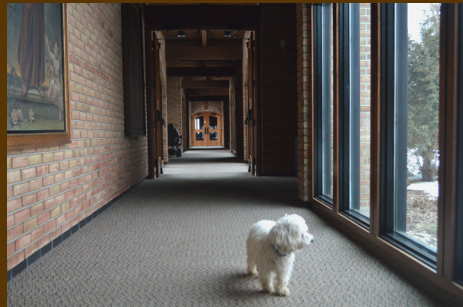
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Have you seen the changes around the Hill lately? Many alumni have commented that they can't recognize the places they used to know. So to help out, Henry has decided to give everyone—alumni, students, benefactors—a short tour of campus. (With some helpful hints)



If your handwriting is worse than chicken scratch scrawl, you might want to work in the computer lab of \_\_\_\_\_ Hall.



Unless you're a visitor or part of the faculty, you won't spend time in this hallway that leads to the \_\_\_\_\_.



If you like books and a quiet place to be, check out a book and sit down in the \_\_\_\_\_.



If you think sprinting up spiral stairs is thrilling, you'll have lots of fun in the \_\_\_\_\_.



Even though my paws are freezing because it has snowed, I think you all should remember warm weather and \_\_\_\_\_ Road.



If you think you're faster than me at all, you must've been spending time in the fitness center of \_\_\_\_\_ Hall.