

## Shift author to speak to SLUH student body

BY MARTY JOHNSON AND SAM CHECHIK  
REPORTERS

Next week will mark a first in St. Louis U. High's summer reading program. Instead of having the school break into groups led by NHS members to discuss the summer reading book, the counseling and library departments, who picked this summer's book, decided to have the author of the book actually come visit the school. [Every year a different department chooses the summer reading book. Some years, two departments are chosen to collaborate and choose the book. This has been a tradition for ten years.]

"We had toyed around with doing something different instead of having the book discussion groups," librarian Cortney Schraut said. So when Schraut discovered that Jennifer Bradbury, author of *Shift*, had a website, she contacted Mrs. Bradbury about coming and speaking to the school.

"She does (readings) a lot across the country with different schools who have read her books," said Schraut.

As a result, Bradbury will visit SLUH next Wednesday and Thursday to teach a number of sophomore English classes and a senior Reading and Writing Fiction class. On Thursday, Bradbury will speak at an all-school assembly.

Bradbury will be talking to the sophomore English classes about how she revises and works on her books.

"She is probably going to

show us different drafts of some sections of the novel (*Shift*) and talk about how they changed and were revised and in particular how she added specific detail," English teacher Rich Moran said.

Schraut hopes that the new experience will be a success.

"I hope the students (will) get a positive experience being able to talk to the author of a book they just read," said Schraut.

When asked whether or not an author visit would happen for next year's summer year reading, Schraut stated that it was a "definite possibility" but that it would be up to the next department's decision to make.

As for the book choice itself, Schraut thought the book was a good choice.

"We wanted to pick something that was kind of a light summer reading book. We were going to do something classic, then we decided maybe we should gear it towards a teen or young adult. This (book) just kind of stood out to us. It was a page turner and had a nice story to it," Schraut said.

Principal John Moran had nothing but praise for the book as well.

What I liked about the book was the two main characters, I could very much imagine walking our halls here. I couldn't put it down and if you are going to ask 1100 students to read one book, it helps that these are characters that everybody in the building is hopefully able to find some way to relate to," Moran said. "Hopefully Bradbury's visit is the beginning of a new tradition at SLUH."

## Casey fills McCarthy's role in library

BY LUKE MILLER  
REPORTER

This year, Saint Louis U. High welcomes Lynne Casey, a much needed addition to the library staff. She comes to SLUH after the departure of long-time librarian, Elenora McCarthy and hopes to fulfill student library needs and solve their Dewey-Decimal dilemmas.

Casey will be working with students alongside librarians Cortney Schraut and Elenora McCarthy as she looks toward her retirement next semester. Her duties include checking out books for students, organizing the thousands of books, and maintaining the decimal level of the Robinson Library.

Her immediate goals are primarily focused on getting lost less frequently. She eventually hopes to help teachers in the library with research papers and inform students of the online library resources like J-Store, ABC-CLIO and the Card Catalog Database.

Casey also hopes to become more involved in the SLUH community and has already attended Sustainability Committee meetings and the newly formed Literature Club, moderated by Frank Kovarik and John Kavanaugh.

"She seems really cool, and she was really interested in the books we were reading for Lit Club," said senior Gabe News- ham.

Casey has plenty of experience with both books and high school, working as a high school English teacher and in several bookstores and libraries in cities such as London, Boston, and Chi-



Casey familiarizes herself with library catalogue.

cago. Her other duties include being a wife, a mother of two, and an owner of a dog, Cora, named after the fantasy character, Coraline.

Like most librarians, Casey loves books. Her favorite books (in no particular order) include

*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen, *The Song of the Dodo* by David Quammen, and *The Sparrow* by Mary Doria Russell.

"I love books. I love the way they are able to create fictional worlds and can immerse you in their characters," said Casey.

## XCBills finish fifth, Hennessey takes first

photo | Nolen Doorack



Sophomore Joe Butler (1331) and senior John Esswein (1344) attempt to surge past a DeSmet runner yesterday.

BY MICHAEL SIT  
REPORTER

The St. Louis U. High cross country teams participated for the first time in the Fleet Feet Invitational at Parkway Central yesterday.

The varsity team finished fifth, and junior Matthew Hennessey finished first overall in the race.

Hennessey completed the two-mile-long race with a stellar

time of 10:51.

"(I'm) proud and (it was a) goal that I was hoping to reach at least one time this season," Hennessey said.

"I think the varsity team did okay, but we all put in an effort that we can be proud of and work from the rest of the season," Hennessey added.

"I think the smell of pizza grease and the promise of free Nike shirts at the finish inspired

our young men to move their little motors as fast as they could," said coach Brian Gilmore.

"These guys are searching for their team identity, and it's early in the season," said Gilmore. "They don't give titles in August, and we have a ways to go to be where we want to be."

With the strong runners that comprise the junior varsity squad, it was no surprise that the first four finishers in the JV race were SLUH students. Sophomore Dustan Davidson dominated the race with a first place finish overall, completing the course with a time faster than over fifty percent of the varsity race finishers.

"It's an honor to be on the SLUH cross country team, and it feels good to win my first ever SLUH race. I look forward to racing more this season," said Davidson, a transfer student to SLUH.

Freshman Joe Laughlin agreed. "It was pretty interesting, and it was good to see a bunch of other cross country runners. It was a good overall experience," Laughlin said.



The gate outside of the new SLUH garden located behind the fence surrounding the Danis Field House, which was constructed by junior Brennan McFarland.

### Clarification

Clarification: Last week, an article was published about SLUH's community garden. The article neglected to mention the fence was constructed by junior Brennan McFarland as a part of his Eagle Scout service project. The *Prep News* sincerely regrets this unintended act of omission.