

the Red



White

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Synodical Council Proposes Closing MLS

Aaron Voss
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MLS 2007

On February 28, the Synodical Council of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod issued a press release that proposed that the Synod stop funding Michigan Lutheran Seminary as a WELS prep school after the 2007-08 school year. If passed at the Synod's convention this summer, MLS would no longer function as a school focused on preparing its students for the public ministry and particularly for Martin Luther College, the WELS ministerial education college.

The Synodical Council, made up of 12 laymen (one from each WELS district) and 11 other called workers, decided on this proposal as a way to help ease the Synod's increasing budget problems. The proposal has brought many different, strong emotions to those who are connected to the Seminary Family.

"I was surprised that the Synodical Council would propose something that seemed so different from what the Synod in convention resolved (in 2005)," President Paul Prange explained, referring to the last convention's overwhelming vote in favor of having the WELS continue to support the two-school preparatory school system.

If passed at this summer's convention (July 30-August 3), Seminary would close as a prep school after the 2007-08 school year. The Synod's preparatory school system would be left with one school, Luther Preparatory School, in Watertown, Wisconsin. If such



scenario took place, the next step for Seminary might be to open up as an "area Lutheran high school" — one supported by a federation of local congregations. The new school would likely have a shift in curriculum, focusing less on college and ministry preparation and offering more career-centered classes. The school would need a larger student body to increase funds that would support the new institution. As a result, students with weaker Biblical training (possibly including students outside the WELS) might be accepted into the school in order to increase the flow of money. As a result, the new school's Bible classes might be "watered down."

President Prange explains: "You can't take anything for granted. You can't assume everyone knows about Adam and Eve."

Actions are now being taken to present the case for MLS to

remain open as a funded prep school of the WELS. The MLS Governing Board was on campus last week and formed an official reaction to the recommendation which can be found on MLS's website <www.mlsem.org>. It is also beginning to formulate in depth statistics about Sem's contribution to the ministerial education system which will be referenced in the Book of Reports and Memorials.

The last month has been a startling time for members of the Seminary Family, but President Prange wants all to remember that this is only a proposal. He also suggests contacting the Synod about your feelings on this recommendation. For information on how to do this, visit the MLS website.



Winter Carnival Brings Week Full of Fun

Every student had loads of fun during Winter Carnival. Dressing up, watching guys try to play volleyball, and going to see a movie for a dollar were just some of the highlights. Here are some more details.

All of the gaming tournaments are not completed, but Jace Fritzler won Clip 'n' Go, a game in which a "clipper" tries to clip another student with a clothes pin without the "clippee" noticing. Marlee Pyscher won the American Idol competition as judged by the X-Box equivalents to Simon Cowell and company.

Monday was a huge success. Everyone came to class dressed in their pajamas. On Monday night the Hot Shot contest began. Junior Dominic Chamber won the competition after beating senior Derick Rosenbaum in the finals during Friday's pep rally. Macho Volleyball took place later that night. It was a very close match, but the senior guys prevailed and won by two points.



On Thursday, Class Color Day, the freshmen wore yellow, the sophomores purple, the juniors pink and the seniors orange. Also on Thursday, many students went to the Saginaw Quad theatres to watch *We Are Marshall* for only one dollar.

Friday was Red 'n' White day, with a Pep Rally following the school day. The week was completed with a fish fry in the cafeteria and a convincing 66-47 varsity basketball victory over Breckenridge.

The week was a huge success as every student displayed his or her school pride in full force!

Spring Sports Begin Preparation

Phil Kasischke
MLS 2007

The spring weather is in the air and has brought along with it the spring sports for 2007.

Coaches Lecker and Baeckl once again return to the Cardinal baseball squad. MLS returns seven varsity players from last year, but only four starters. Seniors Scott Cooper and Jimmy Trommer have already played for two years. Also, the varsity squad added five fresh faces.

Coach Lecker hopes that the baseball team will stay competitive in the new TVC West: "I think we'll do just fine. Ithaca and St. Louis will probably be our toughest competition."

MLS softball hopes to also have a successful year. Their practices have been going well, and they hope to continue it on the diamond in mid-April. Coach Dean Post and Coach Taylor are leading the Cardinals this year.

The Lady Cards have a lot of hitting and speed this year, which should contribute to a successful year. They are looking forward to the new conference and see Merrill as their biggest threat.

Both baseball and softball start their season at Bridgeport on April 17.

As for track and field, both teams lost a lot of senior talent from last year, shown by the numerous athletes that qualified for the State Track Meet. As a result, both the girls' and guys' squads look to fill many gaps. Due to the inexperienced roster, the boys' season looks like it might be a rebuilding one, but is led by the timeless Coach Schroer. Coach will look to get the most from his returning letter winners as they lead a young team.

The girls' team is also searching for talent to fill gaps left by last year's seniors and will rely heavily on its returning veterans. The girls will be led by first year head coach, Prof. Kathy Kock. Prof. Tim Malchow was the head coach last year and may return after he returns from his sabbatical call in Ukraine in early April.

The track teams' first meet is at Garber on April 11.

Faculty and Student Spotlights

Andrea Zager
MLS 2007



Aerosmith, AC/DC, The Beatles, and Hellogoodbye, these are a few of her favorite bands. Cami Behrmann is one of a kind. She's funny, outgoing, and will certainly brighten your day.

Cami Jo Behrmann came into the world in Midland, Michigan. As of March 14, her official place of residence is the Michigan Lutheran Seminary dormitory. However, her real home is in Auburn, Michigan. She attends church at St. John in Bay City.

First joining our Seminary family in 2003 as a freshman, she spent two and a half years at Bay City Western. Now she joins us again as a senior, ready to take on the world. She enjoys dance parties, her iPod, her family, and a clean room. She keeps busy by getting her "bounce" on in her favorite track event: high jump.

Along with her high jump training, Cami has a habit of picking up things while she's running in track practice. Just last year, she picked up a sign advertising a 7-Up sale, a hubcap, a broken spinner, and a golf ball that has become a favorite among runners.

Cami Jo, nicknamed Camo, is a force to be reckoned with and ready to take on the world!

Senior Derick Rosenbaum enjoys playing basketball, video games, and eating. Derick is a 6' 4" football/basketball/concert choir fanatic. Born to Kurt and Brenda Rosenbaum, his official residence is in Sarasota, Florida.

Derick holds his own on the court; just ask him. He loves to tell how in fifth grade basketball he scored the game winning shot and how in his seventh grade year he made six three-point shots in a row!

But, he has also had his mishaps in life. When he was five, he got bit in the face trying to kiss a dog. After that, he went and put a bunch of band-aids on all the little scratches and vowed never to do such a thing again.

D-Baum loves his chocolate chips and his favorite college, the Florida Gators. He also wants all the ladies out there to know that he is single and up for grabs! With so much rolled into one person, it surely is a wonder Derick Rosenbaum isn't already claimed.



It is time to play "Guess Who?" Here are some clues: born in Crete, Illinois; plays organ; a favorite historical figure is Abraham Lincoln. Have you figured it out yet? It is none other than Professor Steven Westphal.

As previously stated, he was born in Crete, Illinois; since then he has also lived in Nina, Wisconsin, and here in Saginaw. As a child, Prof. Westphal attended Zion Lutheran Grade School and from there advanced through Northwestern Prep School and Dr. Martin Luther College. While on a visit to Wisconsin Lutheran College, he met his future wife, Mary Jo, an MLS librarian.

Prof. and Mrs. Westphal now have two children. His children, all grown up now, are named Jennifer and John. Jennifer is currently a housemother living near Atlanta, Georgia with the Westphals' two grandchildren: Aaron (6) and Leah (2). John resides in Milwaukee.

Prof. Westphal and his wife enjoy traveling very much. They have traveled all over Western Europe and to all of the states in the Union. One of their most interesting "traveling moments" happened in France. They had ordered a pizza and, upon arrival, found an egg frying in the middle of the pizza!

Since those interesting times, Professor Westphal has spent his time here in Saginaw teaching Government, American History, and supervising the yearbook program.

Next time you pass him in the hallways, try asking him where his latest adventures have taken him. If you don't, just appreciate the wonders he has taught us to see in our country.