



## Football tops Jeff City 35-14 thanks to strong run game

BLAKE OBERT  
SPORTS EDITOR

As the Jr. Billiken football team finished its team meal last Friday in a park less than a mile from Jefferson City High School, the only thing on their minds was coming back home with a win. Game time approached, and after the meal some cookies and cupcakes were brought out for the players. Spotting a few young linemen heading for the sweets, senior lineman Joey Lansing called out, "You can have a cookie when we're 2-2."

Following the rough loss to De Smet last week, SLUH did not intend to repeat the tribulations from that game. Receiving the ball first, the Jr. Bills went 80 yards passing and 43 rushing, including a diving catch from sophomore receiver Ike Thompson and a shifty 39-yard rushing touchdown from senior running back Kellen Porter for an early 7-0 lead.

With the help of two sacks in a row, from seniors Luke Schuermann and Dashiell Wuller, Jeff City's first drive resulted in a must-punt situation for the Jays.

"It's ironic because the way we've attacked these (away) games has been better than the one we played at home," said coach Mike Jones. "The whole mentality is us vs. everyone else. We've done a good job of bringing up the intensity and starting off fast in (out of town) games, which is something we need to work on at home."

SLUH's offense continued to put up big plays in the first quarter, including three breakout runs in a row, two from Porter, resulting in a combined 36 yards, and quarterback Brendan

Hannah joined in with a 22-yard scramble of his own. Thanks to the power run game, the Jr. Bills converted on third down inside the 10-yard line, and finished the drive with a 3-yard rush from Porter for his second touchdown of the first quarter to go up 14-0.

The defensive line added three more sacks, on consecutive plays, before the Jays could get a first down.

On SLUH's next drive, Porter and Hannah combined for another 38 rushing yards, and the offense racked up altogether another 52. Porter secured a hat-trick of rushing touchdowns as well, as he punched in yet another score for the Jr. Bills to make the score 21-0.

The Jays finally responded, stringing together six first downs and, with the help of four late down conversions and a few penalties, finally found the end zone. The score came off of a 26-yard dime that allowed the receiver to slip just inside the bottom right pylon for the touchdown, to close to score to 21-7 with less than a minute left in the first half.

"We have everything we need (on defense)," said Schuermann. "We just needed the backers, the secondary, and the line to all do their part, and that's why we were playing well."

After Jeff City's offense was forced to punt to start the second half, the Jr. Bills marched from Jeff City's 31-yard line all the way to the end zone after an initial 22-yard pass followed by eight straight rushing plays. Porter's fourth rushing touchdown of the night capped off the drive.

Down 28-7, Jeff City  
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## Soccer switches up midfield strategy; places second in CBC tournament

JIMMY STANLEY  
SPORTS EDITOR

The 7-4 St. Louis U. High varsity soccer took control of the midfield this past week with some new changes and squeezed out some close games. SLUH closed out their CBC Tournament performance with a loss against De Smet and a win against Vianney, then slipped past Marquette 1-0.

As the season hits its halfway point, SLUH holds a total goal differential of 24-10. They have relied on their stellar defense and midfield to control the ball and tempo, but have decided to switch it up, pulling six players to the midfield instead of the usual five. This means that they will only have three players on de-

faced CBC, De Smet, and Vianney.

"It's been two or three years since we beat CBC at CBC," said senior captain Ethan Joly. "It's one of the toughest tournaments of the year and we came out 2-1 against some quality teams."

After their sound 3-0 defeat of CBC on Sept. 17, SLUH played their second game of the tournament last Thursday against De Smet. The game started as a sprinting match up and down both sidelines. With senior Peter Hermann in goal, the defense and goalkeeping were stellar. At half the game was tied 0-0, but SLUH appeared weary after the tough and fast-paced battle in the midfield.

In the second half, De

the sideline and sent a beautiful ball to Joly, who tapped it in for the first goal of the game.

"In the beginning we couldn't move the ball and at the half we kept getting more chances and opportunities. All we needed was one chance and we got it," said senior manager Andrew Baumer.

Early in the second half, senior Ryan Klosterman sent a beautiful cross to senior striker Maks Juric, who headed the ball in for the second goal of the game.

Vianney scored a free kick halfway through the second half. SLUH still held off the Griffins to secure the 2-1 win.

"Last year against the MCC we were 0-9, so to get

istry has never been better.

"One of the things that is kind of obvious with the group is that they are a pretty close-knit group," said O'Connell. "They like each other and they play hard for each other and we benefit from that on the field. We have had some success against some teams and gotten good results. I think our confidence is something that is much different from last year which can only help us."

After the promising tournament finish, SLUH travelled to Marquette.

SLUH was fired up and ready to play. The first half was full of constant blows back in forth in the midfield, and both teams fought for scoring chances. The constant exchange was a stalemate and the game headed into half with a score of 0-0.

SLUH got their chance just 13 minutes into the second half. Klostermann sent a beautiful cross to junior Adam Wolfe, who was battling a tough ankle injury suffered during the De Smet game but was playing through the pain, and Wolfe buried it into the back of the net. SLUH was up 1-0 and Hermann preserved their lead in goal. SLUH improved to 7-4 on the season.

"I thought the guys did a really good job," said O'Connell. "There will be many games like that and we kept our composure. We kept the ball and eventually we were hoping we could put enough quality together to score one and we scored a great goal. They are believing that they can win these close games and they have proved that to be true in the last couple of days."

SLUH beat Vianney last night 2-1 and will travel to Kansas City to face Van Horn High School this afternoon at 4:00 PM.



Junior Tilahun Murphy (left) against De Smet.

photo | Jonel Olar

fense.

"This change has allowed us to not only keep possession but also help us in the attacking pace as our wide wings make dangerous runs to get crosses through," said junior Tilahun Murphy. "Though we aren't the largest team, we are still able to score from crosses and set plays like that."

SLUH used those new tactics in the CBC Tournament last week. The CBC Tournament is a round robin tournament in which SLUH

Smet dominated SLUH's tired defense and scored early. As the half continued, De Smet managed to score two more goals and hold the shutout.

SLUH looked to rebound Saturday against Vianney—another strong MCC rival.

Junior Johnny Barr started in goal and SLUH senior captain Charles Neuwirth came out in full force and had multiple scoring opportunities in the first 20 minutes.

Then, at the 25 minute mark, Neuwirth drove the ball down

a good result was huge," said head coach Bob O'Connell.

SLUH is now 2-2 in the conference with their two losses coming from Chaminade and De Smet.

"We are already looking forward to a rematch against those two teams. Especially since they are both in our district. We're ready to bounce back and win when it is most important," said Joly.

SLUH finished second in the tournament just behind De Smet, and the team chem-

## Cross Country Jv and V2 step up and showdown at Paul Enke invitational

MITCHELL BOOHER AND  
PETER LABARGE  
REPORTERS

In St. Louis, there is one course in the cross country world that stands above all the rest; one course with decades of tradition; one course that must be conquered for one truly to become a man: the great Sioux Passage. If there is one word to describe a race on the enormous Man Maker and Confidence Breaker hills, it would simply be "pain," and the Jr. Billikens found themselves running through it this past Saturday: up and down Roller Coaster hill, through the bends of the woods, and finally to the blazing downhill

finish of the historic Paul Enke Invitational.

Despite holding out their top seven runners, SLUH opened their day in the varsity race with a bang. Sophomore Baker Pashea (18th, 18:48) led the way for the varsity, and sophomore Justin Glass (43rd, 19:34) worked up the hills to finish not a minute later. Sophomore Joe LaBarge (35th, 19:38) shined in his varsity debut, as he used the massive inclines to his advantage to move up late in the race.

"Even though I got off to a slow start because I wasn't used to the quick varsity first mile, I think I did a great job of using the hills to my advantage

to pass people and work myself up in the race," said LaBarge.

Senior Mitchell Booher (38th, 19:46), junior Noah Apprill-Sokol (42nd, 19:50), and freshman Wyatt Seal (54th, 19:55) ran a great team race, with each one of the three taking lead of the pack to help pull the other two up the grueling climbs and long flats. Only in the last 800 meters did the three separate, with Booher closing the fastest and Apprill-Sokol and Seal using the last downhill to sprint to the line.

"I felt really good about staying in a pack with Noah and Mitchell, since it gave us the opportunity to work

off each other and push each other through a tough course like Sioux passage," said Seal. "I was overall really happy that we managed to stay together for the majority of the race."

Senior Austin Bienvenue (48th, 20:04), in just his third cross country race and first varsity ever, put up a strong effort to close out SLUH's race. Running against state qualifier teams in Parkway West and Lafayette, the V2's performance was good enough for sixth in a packed field of 22 teams.

The JV race took off next, with a large pack of SLUH

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art | Nick Koenig

## Swim exemplifies more dominance ahead of Columbia meet Saturday

BY NICHOLAS DALAVIRAS  
AND JACK FIGGE  
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A head of their biggest test of the regular season on Saturday, the CoMo invitational, Saint Louis U. Hight Swim and Dive had a relatively light week following two invitational weekends in a row. Showcasing JV improvement and testing the waters in their first tri meet of the season, the Jr. Bills picked up two wins this week, taking down De Smet last Friday and Lafayette and Oakville on Tuesday.

A week after the De Smet Spartans handed SLUH football a major loss, the SwimBills were eager to seek revenge and claim a victory over their little brothers at De Smet. Not only was this meet an opportunity for revenge, many JV swimmers also had the opportunity to swim in new events and compete in a dual meet.

"It was nice to allow other people to swim," said head coach Lindsey Ehret. "It is always important for me to

get as many swims to our JV group as possible."

While SLUH held strong through all of the first half, the one standout event was the 50 freestyle, where many freshmen and sophomores saw significant improvement from time trials. Freshman Nicholas Childs had a seven second drop, freshman Carlos Sarmiento had a five second time drop, and sophomore Dennis McDaniel had a two second time drop from a 28.85 to a 26.23, good for third in the event.

"I felt really good after the race," said Sarmiento. "The first time I did the 50 free, I had a high time, but this race was much better."

Even with a strong performance in the beginning of the meet, SLUH only had a two-point lead over De Smet at the break.

In the 500 freestyle, SLUH took first and second as sophomore Cooper Scharff secured his eighth state cut of the season, five individual and three relays, finishing with a great mid-

season 4:51.41.

Two freshmen stole the spotlight in the 100 backstroke when freshman Solomon Shelton and freshman Daniel Irvine placed first, 1:04.93, and second, 1:12.96, respectively.

"I felt a lot of pride after seeing my time," said Irvine. "The SLUH swim team has given me the chance to improve on my stroke, and this meet gave me the chance to see how much I have improved over the course of the season."

SLUH was able to pull away in the second half of the meet, swimming away with a 98-72 victory.

"There were some huge time drops," said JV coach Rob Hill. "It shows that they've been training hard this year, and I'm proud of that."

"I know they have been working hard on technique, which is important when you're less experienced," said Ehret.

While the dive team was unable to compete in the De

Smet meet since the diving board is still broken, they used the tri meet against Lafayette and Oakville to test more difficult dives, still finishing the meet with a 1-2-3 finish.

Seniors Gabe Manalang and Max Manalang adjusted to the higher difficulty dives with mixed results, but their solid execution earned them both personal records.

"Max and I were a bit rusty doing some of the new dives with higher difficulty, but both of us still managed to get new PRs," said Gabe Manalang.

Sophomore Sebastian Lawrence had an even better night, executing his extremely difficult dives very well, taking first and finishing with a score about two points off of the SLUH six dive record of 299.95.

"(Lawrence) is definitely going to break the school record some day," said Manalang.

Since the swim team was amid final workouts before the CoMo Invitational, the team used the meet as one last grind before the big show. While there were no real noteworthy swims, the tired Jr. Bills rolled over the Lancers and Tigers en route to a dominant 158-101-70 win.

Heading to the Mizzou Natatorium tomorrow for the CoMo Invitational, the team is excited for its most challenging invite of the year and hopes to repeat the results its victory from last year.

## Cross Country looks to Ed White Invitational this weekend

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runners leading the way. Led by a third place finish from senior Sirius Song, the Jr. Bills took first place in the race despite their normal JV scorers racing in varsity. Junior Aidan Byrne (4th) and sophomore Graham Sanfilippo (7th) were the next finishers for the team, and in a competitive finish, junior Henry Bourneuf (10th) and sophomore Francis Alford (12th) outbattled Lafayette for important spots to edge out Lafayette by five points. Impressively, SLUH put six finishers in front of Lafayette's top four to steal more points from them. The Jr. Bills finished with ten medalists on the day.

"I think the race went really well for me because I was able to learn from my past mistakes the past few years at Sioux Passage," said Song. "Overall, I was extremely impressed by how well the SLUH JV packs stuck together and worked together throughout the race."

Right from the start of the race, the SLUH freshman pack absolutely dominated their race. At the one mile mark, there were twelve SLUH runners within ten seconds of each other, an extremely rare feat. Even without their top runner Seal who was running in the varsity race, the freshmen easily won their race with only 24 points, 43 points fewer than the second place finishing Parkway West.

The impressive SLUH pack was led by Tim Greiner who pulled away later in the race to a second place finish. However, much of the original pack did not fade, as Carter Lowe, Will Riggan, Tyler Barks, and Nolan Meara

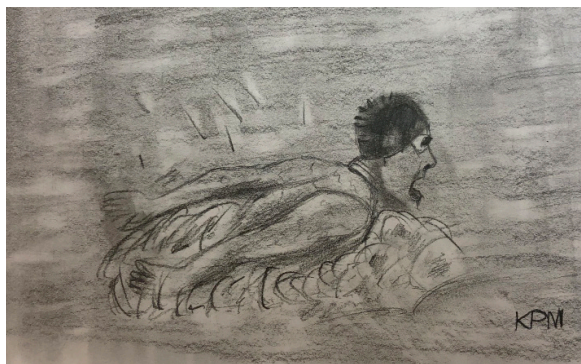
took places fourth to seventh respectively to round out the scoring five for the freshman.

This weekend, the Jr. Bills will take their top 14 runners to the Palatine Invitational outside of Chicago in what is one of the most competitive races they will run all season. Despite the high intensity and competitiveness, varsity and JV have their eyes on the front of the race, hoping to take strong positions. The extremely flat race has yielded personal record and ultra fast times for SLUH in the past, and they hope to continue this pattern on Saturday.

"We really need to worry about ourselves on Saturday," said Porter. "We need to limit our one to three gap that grew to high at FPXC and trust in the work we have put in so far this season. Our times in workouts and at Granite City were faster than last year, and we have to trust that the work we put in so far will show on the course."

While the top 14 are in Illinois, the rest of the team will make the journey to Arnold for the Ed White Invitational. Similar to Palatine, this course is one of the fastest courses the team will run all season, and they hope to have many PRs. Even without their top fourteen, SLUH has their eyes on taking home trophies in varsity, JV, and freshman against opponents like De Smet and Borgia.

"It will be a tough test for our team at Fox, but I am excited to see how they take risks and show their fitness on the course" said Porter.



art | Kyle McEnery

## Hockey defeats Chaminade in Top Hat Tournament opener

BY BLAKE OBERT AND  
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SPORTS EDITOR, REPORTER

While the summer heat continues to linger in the greater St. Louis area, the ice in the Webster Ice rink is as frozen as ever, and the defending back-to-back state champion Jr. Billiken hockey team opened its preseason activities there, beginning the quest for a third title in three years on Tuesday against Chaminade in the Top Hat Tournament.

The Top Hat Tournament is an annual tournament hosting a variety of teams. While the games do not count towards the regular season, it gives the teams participating in it an opportunity to get an early look at their competition and get used to playing with new teammates.

SLUH's first game went according to plan, as they took home their first unofficial win of the season.

From the start, you could tell the game was going to be chippy with the Jr. Bills getting in some punishing hits while Chaminade picked

up two consecutive penalties with 10:41 left in the first. SLUH couldn't pounce on the advantage, with a slow and sloppy 5 on 3 power play, only to get bailed out with Chamli picking up another penalty right as their first ended. SLUH again failed to capitalize, but put up an onslaught of shots. The Jr. Bills finished the period with solid offensive play, but a rusty start to the defense.

"Coach asked us to start the season going hard to the net, so he didn't have to yell at us, which is what happened last year, so we just wanted to avoid that," said senior Jack Hazelton.

SLUH came out of the locker room buzzing after the first period. The offense began settling in, and fired off a barrage of slap shots in the early going of the period. SLUH's first goal of the preseason came less than three minutes into the period, when junior Joseph Perotti buried a shot to put the Jr. Bills up 1-0.

From there the intensity only grew. Hazelton got into it with a Chaminade player,

resulting in penalties for both sides, and Chaminade took another penalty, this time because of slashing, not long after. It was clear there was bad blood between the two MCC foes.

After a number of strong looks, including great shots from Hazelton and senior Patrick Simoncic that came close to breaking the plane of the goal line, sophomore Ryan Spinner sniped the corner of the net to put SLUH up 2-0.

"All the guys that are new to varsity were nervous, but the guys that weren't new just wore down Chaminade's team. Then, once the second period came, we had confidence, and everything started going our way," said Hazelton.

Both teams were throwing themselves at each other, and the game's physicality did not falter as the second period continued. Offensive opportunities continued to appear despite the physical defense from both teams, including one from senior Alex Beville where he dangled through a group of defend-

ers but wasn't able to slip the biscuit in the basket. Offense and defense seemed to counteract each other through the rest of the period.

SLUH came out for the third period with the same intensity as they'd had in the second, not wanting to give up the 2-0 lead. They were contending every pass, dishing out big hits, and keeping the pressure on Chaminade. Yet, as the period continued, SLUH's offense lost the edge they carried into the third. Meanwhile, the defense was making ill-advised passes in front of the goal and allowing Chaminade to keep it on SLUH's side of the ice.

The sloppy play on defense finally led to Chaminade cutting the lead to one; the puck slid in between senior Cole Jansky's legs with 4:41 left.

With 1:30 left in the third, Chaminade decided to pull their goalie, but it didn't give them the advantage they were looking for. SLUH's defense stayed hungry, allowing them to jar the puck loose and leading to a quick empty net goal from Spinner to

close out the scoring for the Jr. Bills, who won 3-1.

"I think we realized that once they scored, that it was only a one score game, which caused us to pick up the pace a lot," Jansky said. "Once we got the 2-0 lead we kind of just sat back and lost

our edge, but the goal was a slap in the face. We realized what we needed to do to get it done and finished the game strongly."

SLUH next plays against Vianney in the tournament on Thursday, on Oct. 3.



art | Kyle McEnery