

"Raise Your Voices to the Sky..."

Lock-Powered Harriers Set Jefferson City Ablaze Despite Slick Course

by Ryan Fagan
of the Prep News Staff

"Wood an' hay kin burn."

—William Faulkner, "Barn Burning"

Head cross country coach Jim Linhares began this season by offering his Harriers the following metaphor: all of the sweat and hard work throughout the season that the team devotes to placing well in the state meet is comparable to stuffing hay in a barn. At the end of the season, when that barn is full, the only thing left to do is to let everything go and burn down the barn.

The varsity cross country team set that barn ablaze last Saturday in Jefferson City, capping one of SLUH's best seasons ever as the team slogged through the snow,

slush, and mud en route to an eighth place overall team finish in the 4A race against the sixteen team competition.

On the individual level, senior cap-

1991 Missouri 4A State Meet

SLUH Varsity Top Seven

- 1) Sean Lock, 17:04.20, 4th
- 2) Jeff Bierling, 18:07.93, 51st
- 3) John Miles, 18:14.58, 59th
- 4) Matt Heebner, 18:28.60, 78th
- 5) Ryan Fagan, 19:09.18, 121st
- 6) Eugene Marshall, 19:15.09, 131st
- 7) Tim Probst, 19:44.98, 144th

tain Sean Lock captured a fourth place finish, matching his fourth place medal at state last year.

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Aquajocks' Run at Title Ended by Rams in Finals

by Dave Renard
of the Prep News Staff

After their 11-7 overtime defeat of John Burroughs in the semifinals of the state tournament, the Varsity Polobills' outstanding season came to an end with a loss to Country Day in the state championship game, only SLUH's second loss of the year. With this loss their record for the entire season fell to 18-2, with both defeats coming at the hands of the CODASCO Rams.

On Friday night, while most of the SLUH community was watching the stunning football win over Hazelwood

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...As the Jr. Bills Go Marching By"

Soccerbills Eye Vianney, Final Four After Districts

by Jim Cosgrove
of the Prep News Staff

Fall sports fans will be treated to another incredible showdown Saturday as the 15-8-2 varsity Soccerbills earned two post-season victories to set up a showdown with first ranked Vianney with a district title victory over DuBourg and a sectional victory over Lafayette.

On Saturday, the Soccerbills challenged the Cavaliers of Bishop DuBourg for the district title. The white home uniforms of the Jr. Bills quickly became caked with mud as the team found themselves frequently slipping in the soggy muck. SLUH was able to get used to the field after a while and the

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Spartans, Comets Steamrolled on Footballs' Road to State Quarterfinals

by Scott Witte
of the Prep News Staff

After knocking off the #1 ranked Spartans of Hazelwood East 26-21 last Friday night, the varsity Gridbills extended their winning streak to four games with a convincing 21-15 victory over the McCluer Comets Wednesday night in the Missouri State, 5A Football sectionals.

Going into their final regular season game of the year against a team that had lost only once in the past two years, the Jr. Bills had their work cut out for them. But the Gridbills, who are currently ranked #2 in the area by the *Suburban Journal*, unleashed their talent and held the favored Spartans to 242 yards total offense, in horrible conditions, 61 of which came on East's first play from scrimmage, on a Ronnie Ward touchdown run.

Another key for the Jr. Bills was their

senior quarterback Steve Schnur, who ran for 3 touchdowns and passed to Jesse Motton for another. His touchdown drive of 1 yard put the Jr. Bills up 26-21 with 4:26 left in the game.

Ward's dash of 61 yards and the extra point put the Spartans ahead 7-0 early in the first quarter. The Spartans soon found the ball back in their possession after a SLUH punt, but the SLUH defense held and East was forced to punt from its own endzone.

Jason Dulick returned the punt to the Spartans 9 yard line. On the next play, Schnur ran the ball in to knot the game at 7-7 late in the first quarter.

The Bill's defense found the Spartans on the move again driving into SLUH territory on a steady drive, but the Spartans were thwarted by junior Jason Waggoners interception and excellent return to

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SLUH's Calacci Ends Prolific 35- Year Career

Sports Wittecisms

by Scott Witte
Prep News Sports Columnist

The C-Footbills brought an exciting season to a close with a disappointing 7-6 loss to the Golden Griffins of Vianney. But the C-team went 6-1 on the season, outscoring opponents 173-26. Though the offense was strong, averaging 25 points per game, the defense was key, allowing no team more than 7 points in a game and shutting out three of their seven opponents.

The D-team also performed well, losing to CODASCO's C-team, but then going 2-0-1, beating CBC in the fifth quarter, topping DuBourg 7-0, and tying Vianney 0-0 for a 2-1-1 record.

According to Coach Matt Sciuto, "This football team had everything a coach could want: size, speed, good people at skill positions, and they like to play football."

But the close of the season meant the end of an era at SLUH. Freshman football coach Dominic Calacci, who coached 35 years of freshman football at SLUH as well as a multitude of other sports, is bringing his distinguished football coaching career to an end.

"I've enjoyed all my years at SLUH. I get a great reward in having a part in the progress our players make," says Calacci.

Calacci, who has coached high school sports for 44 years (including 9 years at St. Genevieve Valle), also says that "The thing I enjoyed most was taking the guys who haven't played before, and watching them improve their skills as they grow, play varsity, and accomplish their success."

Calacci received a plaque from the SLUH community before Friday night's game to commemorate his 35 years of coaching freshman football. When asked how he felt about his long term at the coaching job, he commented, "I've never looked upon it as work; it was all fun. I enjoyed working with the athletes. Since there's a lot of hours spent coaching, you have to enjoy it."

Words of wisdom from a coaching legend. Perhaps that ethic is why he boasts many other plaques to go along with his

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Repeat

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team increased their shot opportunities and goalie Josh Hertel combined with the rest of the defense to stop any DuBourg threats as the half ended in a 0-0 stalemate.

The Cavaliers were able to strike first in the second half as they scored with 29:00 left in regulation. A few minutes later, junior Damon Rensing tapped the ball on an indirect kick to senior captain Todd Bruemer who blasted the ball in to tie the game 1-1. The Jr. Bills were able to take the lead a few minutes later, when senior Brian Flanagan tapped the ball into the net amid chaos in front of the DuBourg goal. SLUH's defense stopped all attempts by the Cavaliers to tie the game as the Jr. Bills earned the district title with a 2-1 win.

Tuesday, the Jr. Bills faced the Lancers of Lafayette in the sectional round of the state tournament. The Soccerbills came out playing strongly as they were able to set up numerous shot opportunities. However, the Bills were unable to take advantage of them.

Senior Joe Behrman commented, "We were outplaying them and getting lots of shots, but we were just unable to cash-in."

Pyromaniacs

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Most impressive for the team was a narrow 211-216 upset victory over Jefferson City High School. The Harriers also convincingly defeated rivals Fox and DeSmet, and finished third among nine St. Louis area teams behind Parkway West and Northwest House Springs.

Before earning SLUH's best finish since 1961, the team members wore T-shirts with the Faulknerian quote, "Wood an' hay kin burn" to symbolize their running pyromania.

Though the team's exceptional season and noteworthy accomplishment in the state meet are the results of the talent and determination of the team as a whole, the importance of high school standout and college recruit Lock is undeniable. He once again proved to be among the state's elite cross country runners and placed fourth despite the adverse running conditions on the 5K, 3.1-mile course. Though Lock was favored by many to win the individual championship, the extreme sloppiness of the course unfortunately proved to be more advantageous to Lock's competitors.

Seniors Jeff Bierling, John "3.1" Miles, and Matt Heebner were also instrumental in the state meet as all turned in outstanding performances.

This would be indicative of the rest of the game as the Jr. Bills were unable to score for the entire regulation period. The strong defense of the Soccerbills kept Lafayette off the scoreboard as the team was forced into overtime with the teams tied at 0-0.

Neither team was able to score as the first overtime period came to a close; however, SLUH put an end to the scoring drought in the second overtime period when junior Marty Powers crossed the ball to senior captain Jeremy Moore, who rocketed the ball between the posts for a 1-0 SLUH victory and a showdown with the Griffins of Vianney.

The Griffins are arguably the best team in the state and a quarterfinal victory over Vianney would give the Soccerbills a great deal of promise for a state title. The Jr. Bills have played very well in their last two games against Vianney. In both games, the Jr. Bills had 2-0 leads at halftime but lost them in the second half.

Behrman concluded hopefully, "It's going to be our biggest challenge, our past two games [against Vianney] have proved we're good enough to beat them."

Bierling placed 51st in his second state meet (he also traveled to Jeff City with the team in '88) with a time of 18:07.93. Teammate Miles crossed the finish line close behind at 18:14.58 and 59th place.

Miles also overcame 13-1 odds, determined by a team vote earlier in the week, and beat personal rival Heebner. Miles credited his great race to his Italian girlfriend, who fed him a home-cooked pasta dinner Thursday before the meet.

Heebner ran an excellent race as he finished fourth for SLUH and concluded his high school cross country career with a 78th place finish and a time of 18:28.60.

Senior Ryan Fagan's fifth place finish for SLUH and 121st overall secured the eighth place in 19:09.18. Jokingly, he added, "I was a strong contender to run with Lock and win first place, but my chances were hurt when I got confused and ran that extra mile on the back part of the course."

Junior Gene Marshall ran well also, pacing himself with Fagan through most of the race and crossing the line in 19:15.09 and 131st place. Probst followed at 144th in 19:44.98, closing out an excellent season and state meet for the Harriers.