

# Soccerbills go 2-0-1; win thriller over DeSmet

**Tim Malecek**

**Core Staff**

The St. Louis U. High varsity soccer team started off their season this week, posting a 2-0-1 record with wins against Gibault and DeSmet and a tie against the Jeff City Jays.

The Jr. Bill squad traveled to the East Side last Friday evening to play a very physical Gibault squad. The game turned ugly early, as the two teams earned four total yellow cards in the first half alone. A brief scrum with Malcolm DeBaun left one Gibault player with a bruise in addition to a complimentary yellow card for each of them.

The new 4-2-4 formation provided the added pressure the team was looking for, but all their early attempts were cleared or snatched by the Gibault keeper.

"The idea would be to score, but more important is the energy and emphasis to get the goal and put the other team on their heels ... The idea is it's the attitude of play-

ing. Forcing yourself to get the goal is just as important as getting the goal," explained assistant coach Charlie Clark.

With only minutes to go in the first half, the Jr. Bills notched their first goal of the season on a decidedly lucky shot. A monster boot from senior keeper Dave Steitz landed on the head of an unsuspecting Gibault Hawk chasing after the streaking Chris Schranck. The ball bounced away from both the defender and the goalie who was emerging from his box towards Schranck. The speedy Schranck arrived just barely before the goalie and chipped the ball over his head.

The bench breathed a sigh of relief with the season's first milestone accomplished.

"After that, the goals were flowing like

jelly from a giant jelly volcano," Schranck thoroughly explained.

"We just need to get that goal because it makes everything easier. We're undefeated in

PHOTO BY KYLE KLOSTER



Sophomore Eric Carretero (25) heads the ball away from an opponent.

the last three years when we score first. That's a good omen for us if we score first," commented head coach Charlie Martel. The omen would prove true.

The Jr. Bills coasted into an easy 5-0 victory, after goals by junior Matt Leinauer, another by Schrank, a header by Brian Odem, and a penalty kick by sophomore Erik Carretero.

Perhaps the most inexperienced area of the team, the defense, proved their worth on Friday evening in the DeSmet game.

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## Harriers take third at First Capitol

**Michael Jonagan**

**Reporter**

The already agonizingly dry, cracked earth writhed under the cruel footfalls of hundreds of runners last Friday afternoon in the First Capitol Invitational, often one of the most exciting, if not most chaotic, meets of the year.

At 4:30 p.m., the SLUH varsity cross country team met the first of this season's many challenges with surpassing vim and vigor, especially considering the crop-withering heat. Although some members of the two teams of seven that SLUH fielded in the varsity competition might tell you that they were not satisfied with their races, there was certainly no paucity of outstanding races.

Displaying leadership that has become as natural as eating and sleeping, Ben Murphy-Baum and Drew Kaiser led the team with times of 16:32 and 17:07, respectively.

Showing a total disregard for the odd brand of hierarchy that can develop on a high school cross country team, freshman Cliff David awed coaches and runners alike with an unprecedented 17:19 and third-place (though unfortunately unscored) finish for

the team.

A first-year runner, junior Dan Viox, harried David in miles one and two, running a strong 17:36. Breathing down Viox's neck figuratively but probably also literally was fellow junior Nathan Banet at 17:37. Banet's two years of consistently solid racing will play enormously to his benefit as he races in the varsity blue for SLUH this year.

Following Banet, in perhaps one of the greatest individual wins of the day, was the pugnacious senior David Rhoads. Running from times over twenty minutes in his freshman year to top JV last year, this runner is the student of perseverance and is living proof that the tortoise will always beat the hare.

Rhoads said of his first race as a member of SLUH's top seven, "The race is much faster ... people are much harder to pass." Excited about his performance Friday, Rhoads looks with hope to Saturday's meet in Columbia, and says he is "ready to run with the (team) leaders."

Rounding out the top seven was junior Matt Lawder, who ran an impressive 17:50, given the fact that he has been dealing with considerable fatigue.

Also to be given due credit for finishing in less than ideal conditions was anyone who ran in the JV race that day, as it was perhaps as organized as a cattle stampede ... at night. Fighting through the chaos to second place overall and an 18:27 was senior captain Shane Mulligan, who took very seriously the invitation to start the season off well.

On a day of firsts for the likes of Rhoads, Viox, and David, first year coach Joe Porter could feel right at home in witnessing his first SLUH varsity meet (in his native St. Charles no less). Porter expressed satisfaction that "guys with little experience knew when to go and were able to race well."

Especially of interest to the former DeSmet and SLUH harrier was freshman John Clohissy, who ran an extremely quick freshman time of 19:01.

"He's someone you'll have to watch in the future" prophesied Porter.

Speaking of prophecy, it seems to be in the cards that the Jr. Bills will be racing this Saturday at the A.L. Gustin golf course in Columbia, Missouri, and for anybody who can make it, the varsity gun will go off at 11:15 a.m. Zoysia grass will be torn.