

Harriers Invade Illinois

by Greg Leuchtmann
Prep News Reporter

This past Saturday, the Varsity Cross Country team came in second place at one of the largest invitational of their season. The JV team also came in second out of a field of 26 teams.

Head Coach Mr. Jim Linhares is encouraged on the team's performance, he commenting, "Oh, yeah, people were competing place for place."

The varsity race was set up in a unique way. There were seven separate races for the top seven runners of each of the 26 teams. The seventh best runner went first, who was followed by the sixth, and so on.

The seventh best runner on SLUH's team was Luke Schulte. He came in first place with a time of 17:34. The next best runner was John Ramsey with a time of 18:10, earning him a fifth place finish. The number five runner on SLUH's squad was Ben Rosario, who won his race with a time of 17:06. In the next race was Chris Graesser, who came in second place with a time of 17:03. John Christie ran in the third race and earned himself a time of 17:12. In the

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Gridbills' "D" Stuns O'Fallon

by Mark Shea
Prep News Reporter

After dropping the first game of the season, the Gridbills were hungry for their first win. The O'Fallon Panthers were unlucky to be standing in their way.

The Jr. Bills shattered the Panthers' 17 home game win streak with the strong, physical play of the defense on last Friday night at O'Fallon. SLUH won the battle of the defenses, shutting out the Illinois team 17-0. O'Fallon's first possession of the game proved to be their only substantial drive of the night. The Panthers had driven down to SLUH's two yard line and were threatening to score. However, the Bill's defense came at the Panthers with a blitz, causing O'Fallon's halfback to fumble, and the ball ended up in the hands of senior defensive end Bill Hucker. The SLUH offense was unable to capitalize on this turnover, but the defense was determined to stop the Panthers the rest of the game.

The Gridbill defense held the O'Fallon offense to only four first downs the rest of the way and only 129 yards total offense. Their top two backs rushed for only 58 yards on 22 carries.

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Polobills Sink MICDS Avenge Last Year's Loss in Championship

by Sean Zuckerman
Prep News Reporter

SLUH Water Polo came one step closer to re-establishing their dynasty with an 11-7 victory over arch-rival MICDS last Tuesday. Last year, MICDS took the state title with their victory over SLUH in the state district game.

Strong contributors to the game were the "Four Horsemen" of SLUH's '96 squad, senior captains Tyler Korte, Matt Guerrero, and Neil Asinger, and junior Jeff Maitz, who scored a combined nine of the eleven goals that led the team to success over MICDS.

The players coming off of the bench also contributed to the victory. Players like senior Keith Mug, and juniors Jon Navarro and Justin Woodard enabled the starters to take a break while intensifying the pressure on MICDS.

Both teams came out hard in the first half, trading goals. At the end of three quarters, the Busenbills had a fragile one-point lead. "But then we just wore 'em down," commented Maitz. The Jr. Bills pulled away while squashing any

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Martelbills on Solid Ground

by Pat Williams
Prep News Reporter

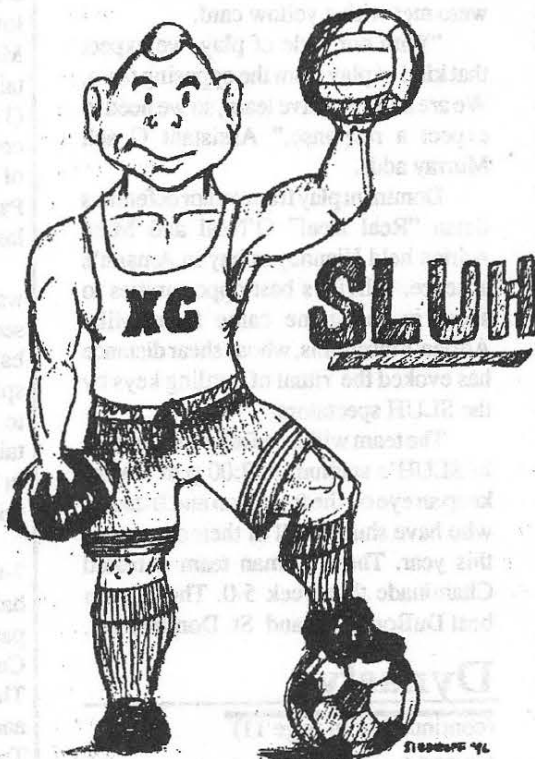
After disappointing results in last weekend's C.B.C. Tournament, the SLUH varsity soccer team found solid ground Tuesday night with a 2-0 victory over St. Dominic. SLUH dominated play more than the score might indicate, producing abundant opportunities to score.

"St. Dominic is a big, physical team, but they were a little slow in the midfield which allowed us to dominate play in their third of the field," Coach Martel comments.

Chances came late in the first half, first with 12:30 left when junior Tim Gibbons posted a through ball up the right side to fellow junior Taylor Twellman, whose shot was just deflected wide by the keeper. Coming from the same side again with 4:46 left in the first half, Gibbons slipped by a St. Dominic defender with a nifty figure-eight move allowing for a cross to junior midfielder Dave Beck who one-timed it into the lower left corner of the net.

"Tim held onto the ball better in that game. It's been something we have been working on which he has improved at,"

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Umbro

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said Martel.

Taylor Twellman finished off St. Dominic in the second half with 31:30 remaining by flipping the ball over a St. Dominic defender and then playing the ball over the keeper's head from about 10 yards out. St. Dominic had few chances against the SLUH defense, which saw the return of senior captain Mike Amann for the first time following his exit with a red card against C.B.C. He was suspended during Saturday's game against Vianney because of the card. The only serious opportunity for St. Dominic came with 5:00 left after a long chip floated over goalie Steve Donahue, but was saved by Amann within the goal area.

The game could serve as a building block for the rest of the season following an 0-2-1 performance in the C.B.C. Tournament. SLUH has not won the tournament since 1980 and has been forced to witness fifteen years of C.B.C. and Vianney dominance in the tournament, with C.B.C. winning the last three and DeSmet taking this year's crown.

All three games were close as SLUH lost 4-3 to DeSmet, 3-2 to C.B.C., and tied 0-0 with Vianney.

"We played great soccer in the C.B.C.

Zoom Rival

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second race was Joe Donnelly, who came in with a time of 17:21. SLUH's best runner was Jerry Fitzgerald, who ran a 16:48 and came in fifth place in his race.

Linhares added, "I was very pleased with Jerry. He really stuck his neck out for the team. Plus, Joe Donnelly was not in very good shape because he was coming off being sick."

Senior Eric Monda commented on the meet, "I was very pleased with the team's performance. It showed that we can compete with anybody in the area."

When asked about the upcoming Hazelwood Invitational, Linhares added, "We are aiming for better than fourth." This will be a challenge with other good teams coming like Jeff City and DeSmet.

Tournament, but we have to learn to play for 80 minutes; we need to learn how to finish," stated Coach Martel.

SLUH still dominated play against Vianney Saturday despite suffering the losses of an injured Jamie Miller and a suspended Mike Amann. Numerous opportunities were stripped away by the violently physical play of Vianney defender Jeff Bell who engaged in numerous take-downs of Twellman. Coach Martel's appeals to the referee were met with a yellow card.

"With our style of play, we expect that kind of play from the opposing team. We are an aggressive team, so we need to expect a response," Assistant Coach Murray adds.

Dominant play from senior defenders Brian "Real Deal" O'Neal and Mike Adrian held Vianney at bay in Amann's absence. SLUH's best opportunities to score in the game came from Mike Adrian's throw-ins, whose shear distance has evoked the ritual of rattling keys by the SLUH spectators.

The team will face DeSmet Saturday in SLUH's stadium at 7:00 p.m. Also, keep an eye on the freshman and B-teams who have shut out all of their opponents this year. The freshman team defeated Chaminade this week 5-0. The B-team beat DuBourg 1-0 and St. Dominic 3-0.

Dynasty?

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MICDS hopes of coming back.

Korte was pleased with the team's effort, for he believed that it allowed them to "take out their stronger points and just helped us to win."

At the JV level, the Baudenbills have also been enjoying a winning streak, which includes triumphs over Parkway South, Oakville, and MICDS. The streak has been fueled by the strong offensive play of sophomores John Penilla, Aaron Christoff, and Jack Wideman. The combination of sophomores Geoff Ziegler, Pat Mullen, Tim Dunn and others has also proven to be both sufficient in size and speed.

Tonight both the varsity and JV teams will face off against the Colts of Parkway Central at Parkway Central.

Panther Poaching

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The Bills defense was led by senior defensive end Nick Haberberger (9 tackles, 1 sack) and senior linebacker Dave "T-Rex" Thielmeier (7 tackles, 1 interception, 1 fumble recovery). O'Fallon's running game was slowed by junior defensive linemen Jim LeBarbera, Mike Delano, and Brad Fritsche, which allowed Thielmeier, senior linebacker Mark Shea (10 tackles), and senior captain strong safety Matt "El Diablo" Orso (11 tackles) to stuff the backs. Also, the coverage in the secondary and the rush of SLUH's defensive line caused the Panther quarterback to misfire on his last seven attempts.

The Gridbill offense sputtered but was able to set up a touchdown in the second quarter, when senior quarterback Phil Winter connected with junior split end Chris Carroll for a 46 yard pass to O'Fallon's four yard line. Senior tailback Renato Fitzpatrick took the ball in for the final six yards on a sweep, his third touchdown of the season.

The Jr. Bills added quickly to their 7-0 lead right before the end of the first half. Thielmeier picked off an O'Fallon pass, and Winter connected again with Carroll for a twenty-three yard gain. The Bills called a quick timeout. Soccer and now-football extraordinaire Talyor Twellman then popped a 29 yard field goal through the uprights to make it 10-0, SLUH, with one second to go in the half. Winter finished off the scoring with a ten yard sneak in the fourth quarter.

Winter commented that, "the defense played great, but now its time for the offense to step it up." Senior captain and offensive guard Chris "Biff" Juelich said, "The offensive line has to play more as a unit and control the line of scrimmage."

Tonight the Gridbills take on Beaumont in the stadium at 7:00. As senior soccer player Brian O'Neal says, "You had better come and watch because the team is awesome."