

Footbills Finish Districts Strong, Fall to Hazelwood East in Sectionals

by Brent Coleman
of the Prep News Staff

In a game that broke players' hearts but nonetheless testified to the team's enormous talent, the Junior Bills fell to the Hazelwood East Spartans 47-28 on Wednesday. The Spartans, ranked first in the state (according to the *Post-Dispatch*) and eighth in the nation (according to *USA Today*), expected to roll over the Footbills as they had done with their previous ten opponents.

The Jr. Bills had other plans, dreaming of ice covered fields and upsets. In 1991, the Jr. Bills defeated a highly favored Hazelwood East team 26-21 in the District finals en route to the Jr. Bills' second place state finish.

The Jr. Bills, ranked fourth in the area and seventh in the state, started the game

strongly. After being forced to punt on their first drive, the Spartans showed why they are ranked first, rushing 62 yards for a touchdown. An irked Jr. Bill offensive squad promptly returned the favor. After a 12-yard run by sophomore Renato Fitzpatrick pulled the Gridbills from a 3rd down and long situation, senior John McArthur completed a forty-yard pass to senior David Ries for a touchdown.

The SLUH defensive unit forced a fumble out of the Spartans on the very next play. After battling the Spartan defense to the Hazelwood East 23 yard line, the Jr. Bill offense pulled some trickery out of its sleeve. At 3:51 of the first quarter, McArthur pitched to senior John Klevorn who, after luring the Spartan defense in, lobbed the ball back to

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Soccerbills Beat DuBourg, Lose Sectional Match to Vianney in Quadruple Overtime

by Dan Ehlman
Co-Editor

Amid the hype of post season play for fall sports, the varsity Soccerbills vaulted into the State Sectionals by knocking off DuBourg in the District Finals, but SLUH's soccer season ended abruptly when Vianney scored the winning goal in the fourth sudden death overtime period.

Because nature provided all sorts of unpleasant conditions, the SLUH-DuBourg District Final scheduled for Saturday was postponed until Monday afternoon and relocated at the St. Louis Soccer Park. The change in venue worked to SLUH's advantage as the Soccerbills defeated the DuBourg Cavaliers by two goals.

While the Martelbills were adjusting to the Soccer Park's fast-paced artificial turf, the Cavaliers jumped into the lead. Just ten minutes into the game, a SLUH hand ball in the penalty box led to a Cavalier penalty kick. Although goalie

Dave Jetton guessed right, the ball sailed by him.

SLUH picked up the pace and pressured DuBourg's defense with many shots, but the Soccerbills did not score until late in the first half. After receiving a cross from senior Paul Jost, senior Doug Schoenekase passed to classmate Greg King, who one-timed a shot that rang off the near post. Then freshman Taylor Twellman rebounded, tying the game at one apiece.

The Soccerbills struck again, this time with minutes left in the half. King tattooed a left-footed shot from twenty five yards out that flew into the upper corner of the goal, giving SLUH a one point advantage at halftime.

SLUH's defense disrupted all DuBourg's second half offensive bouts, and SLUH countered with its own scoring opportunities. Late in the game, a corner kick pass from co-captain Pat Feagan

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Eighth Place Finish at State Ends Stellar Season for Harriers

by Jeff Merlo
Co-Editor

Expectations are a heavy burden. They can put a cloud of disappointment over a solid performance.

The Harriers' performance at the 1994 State Meet last Saturday at Hough Park in Jefferson City was an improvement over last year, but the eighth-place finish was not what the team had hoped for or expected. The Harriers' adjusted score of 189 was a mere four points from a solid sixth-place finish. The Jr. Bills were barely edged out by Blue Springs (187) and Kirkwood (185). However, with the strong competition, and what Coach Jim Linhares termed "a mediocre day for [the team]," it was still respectable.

The best performance by a Jr. Bill was that of senior Pat Hamel, who garnered All-State honors with a fourteenth place finish. According to Hamel, "My race plan was totally changed with the [terribly wet and windy] weather," but he got down to business at the start of the race putting himself in about twentieth place and in contention for the medals. Medals are awarded to the top fifteen in each race. By the two-mile mark, Hamel had battled his way up to the cutoff spot for the medals, but nothing was certain as the runners approached the infamous Heartbreak Hill in the last half mile of the race. When he rounded the final bend, Hamel had fallen to sixteenth, but showed his determination by out kicking a Zizzor from West Plains and another runner to secure the All-State medal and a time of 17:00.

Linhares said Hamel had a "great race." But Hamel said, "I just wanted to get my medal and go home," due to the drenching rain that fell after the race.

Junior Tim Chik and senior Kevin
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Racquetbills' Wealth of Talent Necessitates Second Varsity Team

by Jim Kelly
Co-Editor

With a "huge program, exciting talent, and a great possibility for taking it all this year," the SLUH racquetball team is eagerly awaiting the start of its 94-95 season, according to coach Dr. Joe Koestner.

Despite almost pulling off an upset-win at the State tournament two years ago and competing as a surprise contender last year, the team has yet to win a State title. This year, Koestner feels, things are going to change.

In fact, the team is packed with so much talent and experience this year that Koestner has decided to field two varsity teams—besides four JV teams.

Koestner first had the idea for another varsity team toward the end of last season, after witnessing the JV I and JV II dominate their opponents for the last five years.

In the past, the executive committee of the Greater St. Louis High School Racquetball League has had a policy of allowing schools that could not compete at the varsity level to have just a JV team. The purpose of the this policy was to prevent teams from getting discouraged from lopsided matches. Similarly, Koestner thought that it would be unfair for the SLUH players who are now on the second varsity team to play at the JV level, which they dominated even last year. "Especially with the lessons [that most of these players take] and their summer work, it would just be boring."

SLUH's ability to field two varsity teams is evidence of its enormous depth and its promising position this year. "This year we have a talented group of seniors, a large freshman turnout, and the strength of a few other underclassmen," said Koestner. In fact, seven of these seniors have at least a year of varsity experience.

Koestner's expectations for the team's performance this year run as high as the spot on the gym wall where he visualizes its "first state banner." Since the team is absent three varsity and five total players due to academic ineligibility, it might not repeat its undefeated regular season of last year, but Koestner feels the team will be in full stride by the State tournament.

The Racquetbills open up their season next week against a tough Francis Howell squad.

SLUH Hockey Hopes For Success in Quest for Mid-States Challenge Cup

by Mike Digman
Prep News Sports Reporter

Coming off a surprisingly strong finish in the 1993-94 season, the 1994-95 varsity hockey club begins the season as a definite contender for the Mid-States title. Advancing to the second round of last year's finals before losing to eventual champion Parkway South, the Jr. Bills displayed a latent potential to go far.

The team has lost only a few seniors to graduation, and the returning squad brings back experience, unity, and toughness.

Senior forwards Joe Farhatt, Corey Haegele, Chris Williams, Steve Ciapciak as well as junior Ryan Zacher and sophomore Mike Leinauer should provide the Junior Bills with a powerful offensive

attack. The strong defense, led by Charlie Voellinger, Steve Aufdenspring, Jason Kempf, and Kurt LaBelle, provides the team with a strong backbone. Chris Ryan and John Rieker's superb goal tending rounds out a solid Jr. Bill team.

The team has trained hard in the offseason and expectations are high despite a pre-season record of 1-1-1. Chris Williams summed up the team's attitude by saying, "Anything less than a Kiel appearance this year makes the season a failure."

DeSmet will also be out for revenge as the Puckbills prepare to defend the coveted Jesuit Cup, which the Jr. Bills have held for the last two years.

The varsity Hockeybills start off the regular season Saturday night against Kirkwood at the Affton Rink at 10:30pm.

Runningmen

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Myers ran side-by-side to finish in forty-fourth and forty-fifth places with times of 17:49 and 17:52, respectively. Myers and Chik both improved their finish places last year by over forty and eighty places, showing the value of State experience. Linhares was pleased with Chik's and Myers's races acknowledging, "[They] had the same kind of races they've had all season."

"I am not disappointed at all," Myers stated; "It was a lot tighter this year than in past years. I think we did well, at State and throughout the season."

Looking back on the year, Chik said it was "a good season and [I'm] looking forward to a great season next year."

Eric Monda (18:10) and Ben Fanson (18:15) also figured in SLUH's team score with seventy-fourth and eighty-third. Both gained valuable State experience and look to improve next year. Senior Tim Denny and junior Joel Brown had disappointing races, finishing one-hundred and third and one-hundred and

fourth.

But Denny echoed the other team members' sentiments, focusing more on an overall "great season" than this one race.

Linhares summed up the eighth place finish with one word, "frustrating." "It was still an incredible season, the best in thirty-three years, but it's a little harder to celebrate with this ending."

But later Linhares turned optimistic, noting that "Just a few days later, the team was already talking about next year." The Jr. Bills look to have another excellent season next year with some promising JV and freshmen runners augmenting the returning varsity runners.

Quote of the Week I

"I can't believe the news today, I can't close my eyes and make it go away. How long, how long must we sing this song? How long?"

--U2, *Sunday Bloody Sunday*