Sports

Busenbills Blank Kirkwood Pioneers in Season Opener

by Mike Digman Prep News Sports Reporter

The puck dropped on the 1994-95 SLUH varsity hockey season Saturday night at Affton, as the Junior Bills faced off against Kirkwood, their first opponent on the road to the Mid-States Cup. The PuckBills shut out the Pioneers, 9-0.

Despite receiving 20 penalties in the game, SLUH dominated both offensive and defensive play throughout the game. The scoring started early as Senior Joe Farhatt netted two goals, 9 seconds apart, on his first shift of the game. Play continued back and forth for the rest of the first period until senior Chip Labelle added his first goal of the season, number three for the Busenbills.

The rest of the game was merely an offensive showcase by the Junior Bills. see POWER PLAY, page 6

Soccerbills Rebound From Early Slump, Find Success Through Team Unity

by Dan Ehlman Co-Editor

Their goal at the beginning of the season was to establish the team concept of unity. The SLUH varsity Soccerbills did just that, to win the Granite City Tournament of Champions and advance to the Sectional game in the State play-offs.

Coach Charlie Martel's exhortation and the team's acceptance of the team concept provided the Soccerbills with the much-needed assistance in overcoming the rough times early in the season. After victories in the first three games of the season, things seemed to go wrong for the Martelbills. Primarily, no one could score. Thus, the team slid from a 3-0-0 start to a 1-5-5 record over the next eleven games. The team did not necessarily play badly over that period; it just lacked offense. In this slow time, however, SLUH tied the #1 ranked CBC Cadets 1-1 and will be remembered by Martel because "CBC

first realized that we were for real" during that game.

Success at the Granite City Tournament provided the catalyst to fire up the Soccerbills for the rest of the season. The Martelbills cinched the Granite City Tournament by defeating CBC and St. Mary's and continued improving going into the State playoffs. Thus, Coach Dan Coughlin's favorite expression, "It's all happening now," characterized Jr. Billiken play.

But the game against Duchesne near the end of the regular season will forever be remembered for Greg King's winning goal with fifteen seconds left in the game. The Martelbills then glided through Districts with SLUH handing DuBourg a 3-1 loss and Gateway a 10-0 scourging. But any hope for a SLUH State title vanished when Vianney stole the Sectional game from the Jr. Bills with an overtime goal,

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Underclassmen Impressive in Three Fall Sports

1994 Freshman Soccerbills Extend Winning Tradition

by Greg Uhrhan of the Prep News Staff

The C-soccer team, just as in the last six seasons, has compiled a winning record under head coach Craig Hannick and SLUH sophomore assistant Joe Dreste. Despite some difficulties, the team ended its season with a respectable 10-7 overall record, 2-2 in the MCC.

According to Hannick, when fall practice began "a very talented group" of sixty-five players tried out. After evaluating them for two weeks, he settled on the largest freshman soccer team ever, composed of twenty-five

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JV Water Polo Takes Cue From Varsity, Goes Undefeated

by Luke Voytas Prep News Sports Reporter

Coasting to an impressive 18-0 record, the JV Polobills extended SLUH's water polo dominance to their level. By romping through the season-ending conference tournament with blowout wins over John Burroughs and Parkway South and an 8-1 shellacking of MICDS, they left little doubt that SLUH will still be the team to beat in the years to come.

Despite losing five sophomores for various reasons, coach Charlie Busenhart knew he had a strong core of returning underclassmen. Captains Matt see NO-LOSE SITUATION, page 7

Depth of JV Harriers Leads to Amazing 101-1 Record

by John Caldwell Prep News Sports Reporter

The 1994 version of the SLUH JV cross country team once again positioned itself as one of the strongest teams in the state, falling only to Parkway South in the final meet of the year.

The team powered its way to a 101-1 record for the season. Records in cross country are computed by taking the number of teams defeated in each meet versus the number of teams that defeat a team. SLUH's stellar record is due to an ocean of competitive runners.

Despite the success of the team, the real focus of the top JV runners was on

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players and three goalkeepers.

The team opened its season with success, blanking Chaminade, DeSmet, and Pattonville behind strong performances by goalie Tim Ferrell, but sank to 3-2 going into the DeSmet Tournament. Despite going 2-1 in the tournament and outscoring opponents 7-1 in the first round, the Junior Bills failed to advance to the second round.

In the next six matches, the C-team broke even, defeating DeSmet, St. Mary's and Chaminade, but losing to Lindbergh, Vianney, and CBC, pushing its overall record to 8-6.

The C team concluded its season with the McCluer North Tournament. After a defeat from CBC knocked them into the consolation bracket, SLUH crushed Hazelwood Central 3-0 behind Chris Linck's hat trick. In its next and final game of the season, the C-bills routed Fort Zumwalt South and claimed the consola-

tion title, concluding their season at 10-7.

Hannick admits that "the high points were subtle," but the important thing was that "throughout the season, we progressed individually but also as a team." During the last two weeks of the season, the team played "some of the best soccer [Hannick] has ever seen." Captain and leading scorer Tom Hunter felt that "after our second game with DeSmet, things started coming together and we began playing as a team."

Overall, the players and coaches were pleased with the effort and level of play this season. Hunter said, "We played well and worked hard throughout the season." Captain Tim Posnanski claimed, "We were a much better team than our record showed, but hopefully it will get better in the future." Fullback Joe Orso summed up this season and future seasons saying, "We had a lot of spirit and unity, and as we get older, our talent will improve and so will our record."

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Guerrerio and Neil Asinger led the team with superior experience and knowledge of the game, while starters Stephen Rose, Keith Mug, and Terry O'Toole performed their roles dutifully. Freshman standout Jeff Maitz filled the sixth starting spot with solid play throughout the year. Sophomore Joe Monahan and freshman Tim O'Connell, both newcomers to the game, showed promise as they shared the goaltending responsibilities.

Busenhart compensated for the loss of the sophomores by taking an almost unheralded fifteen freshmen onto the team, most of them completely inexperienced. But under the perceptive tutelage of Busenhart and assistant coach Mr. Paul Baudendistel—who, according to Busenhart "is second in the area only to Country Day coach Don Casey in knowledge of the game"—the freshmen progressed steadily throughout the year.

Rose was the team's leading scorer, tallying forty-eight goals by using his speed to create many fast break opportunities. Guerrerio was a dominant force at the two meter position, scoring thirtynine goals and overwhelming his opponents with his size and strength.

Asinger, with his deceptive size and quick hands, played textbook defense, recording steal after steal and scoring twenty-five goals. Maitz scored twenty-nine goals, while O'Toole and Mugracked up 12 and 16 goals, respectively. Freshman Justin Woodard played well off the bench as well.

Coach Busenhart summed up the season, saying, "The team really worked hard and their record shows that. I expect them to carry on the winning tradition of SLUH water polo for the next few years."

101 Ways To Win

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the seven varsity positions. John Flynn, Joel Brown, and Ben Fanson see-sawed between varsity and JV throughout the season, giving the fifth through seventh position varsity runners competition and making the team stronger as a whole. The JV team was buttressed by John Weller, Tim Blessing, Keith Myers, Joe Donnelly, John Sauter, and Mark Bonk.

Varsity member Joel Brown admitted that the "JV juggernaut motivated us towards faster times."

Head Coach Jim Linhares expressed the depth of the JV team by saying, "I wish I could put twelve of our best group on the line at State," proving the overall depth of running talent the team pos-

<u>Surprise</u>

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in the gym. Traditional activities include volleyball, basketball, rifle shooting, and board games. These activities will take place in SLUH's gym, cafeteria, and rec room.

Planners expect three to four hundred

sesses.

The team enjoyed the season with victories at the Eureka Invitational, Parkway West Invitational, the MCC conference meet, and, most notably, the Metro Invitational, placing first out of two dozen teams. The one blemish on its record was struck by Parkway South in the Finley Invitational, but SLUH had previously defeated them at a dual meet between the teams.

Success this year for the JV team ensures a strong varsity team next year, especially due to the departure of three seniors on varsity. Linhares is confident about next year, citing, "This year's JV team was the best we've ever had. The JV team was the reason varsity did so well."

people, and encourage juniors and seniors to bring their moms and join the large number of freshmen and sophomores. The fun starts at 6:45 and lasts until 9:30. Dress is casual. All are encouraged to spend some time with their moms and have a good time, concluded both coordinators.

Pretty Smart

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was pleased with SLUH's performance, commenting, "We did real well; it was the most number of [SLUH students] we've ever taken." Kissel was especially pleased with Geels' performance saying, "Since Denis went to the contest for four years, it shows that practice does help."