

Sports

5

Newlook Gridbills Outlast Pioneers 17-14 in Overtime Thriller

by Chris Pelikan with Ryan Sackett
Prep News Sports Reporters

When the SLUH gridiron is flooded by a mass of roaring students under the Friday (in this case Thursday) night lights, it's usually a sure sign of both drama and victory for the boys in blue. In thrilling fashion the children of the Kornfeld went to the wire with the visitors from Kirkwood and pulled out an overtime win to open the 1995 campaign.

Although undeniably loyal to their beloved Jr. Bills, fans looked to somewhat of a new cast to provide the victories they've grown accustomed to seeing. For the first time in three years, the faces of phenom quarterback John McArthur and all-state wideout David Ries were absent from the Jr. Bill offense. With the two most potent weapons in SLUH's intricate passing attack lost to the Big Eight, Coach Kornfeld turned to his formidable backfield to carry the load. Comprised of junior Renato Fitzpatrick and senior co-captain Brad Pennington, the boys in blue look to these returning starters to provide

the majority of the scoring.

New quarterback Phil Winter becomes only the third signal-caller for the Bills in seven years, with his two most recent predecessors residing within the ranks of Division I. Despite the presence of expectations placed on a SLUH quarterback, Winter doesn't feel the pressure that may be expected. "I don't look at it that way; there are a lot of good players out there. The pressure is on the team not just me," he commented.

Winter led his team into Thursday night's contest as unfamiliar underdogs. Facing the #1 ranked team in the West, (*The Suburban Journals*) the Billikens defied the pollsters by striking first on a one-yard sneak by Winter with 5:12 left in the half. Undaunted, Kirkwood drove 77 yards on eight plays capped off by a six yard touchdown run compliments of back Greg Drummond. The touchdown marked Kirkwood's first score of a half dominated by SLUH's defense. Highlighted by a dramatic 4th and 1 stand on Kirkwood's opening drive and an athletic

interception by safety Mark "The Sheriff" Delhougne at the SLUH 20 yard line, any concern caused by the lack of experience on defense was eased in the first half.

The scoring stagnation continued into the third as junior free safety Tayton Fain ended another Kirkwood drive with an interception on the SLUH 5 yard line. However, the Pioneers countered with an interception of their own on SLUH's 17 yard line. Capitalizing on their excellent field position, the Pioneers marched into the endzone three plays later. An executed two-point conversion compensated for an earlier muffed extra point and Kirkwood assumed a 14-7 lead.

After another SLUH turnover, Kirkwood seemed ready to finish off the lackluster Billikens. However life rushed back to the players and crowd alike as defensive end Nick Sansone recovered a Kirkwood fumble with 6:50 left in the game. The Bills drove to the Pioneers' 17 and, after a Kirkwood defensive stand,

see FLAG ON THE PLAY, page 6

Soccerbills Kickoff With Success; Fall to Cadets in CBC Tourney

by Josh Bacott
Prep News Sports Reporter

Blessed with talent, experience, and a rather large amount of self-confidence, the St. Louis University High School soccer team has one goal for the 1995 season: SLUH's first state soccer title in five years. On Wednesday, August 30, at Fort Zumwalt South, the Jr. Bills took their first step toward the Soccerdome with a thorough 3-1 lashing of the Bulldogs.

It took 20 minutes for SLUH to notch the first goal of the '95 season when senior co-captain Joe Gallo drilled a low liner past the Zumwalt keeper from 20 yards out. Gallo, who played the role of offensive defenseman, doubled the lead minutes later when he again teed up from 20 yards out.

The first half was controlled by Coach Charlie Martel's squad and ended with a

2-0 lead. However, shortly after the second half began, SLUH senior co-captain goalie Dave Jetton's idea of a shutout was shot down when a Zumwalt winger streaked down the sideline past several men in blue to beat Jetton far side.

The Jr. Bills responded ten minutes later when senior Matt Eilerman headed a cross from senior Craig Standley into the upper corner of the net. Eilerman proceeded to celebrate his accomplishment in unique fashion, booting the corner kick marker onto the nearby running track, after which he was promptly assessed a yellow card and sentenced a two-game suspension by Martel. Jetton made this observation on the affair: "There were a few rough spots, but those will be worked out as the season goes on. All in all, it was a solid performance."

see BABY BLUE SOCKS, page 8

Cross Country Squad Starts Off on the Right Foot

by Keith Myers
Prep News Sports Reporter

Kicking off its 50th season, the SLUH Cross Country team began the '95 season this past Wednesday with important victories on all three levels against formidable Parkway South.

On the varsity level the Jr. Bills defeated the Patriots 29 to 30. Although this was not a landslide victory, it was one of great importance in order to build the team's confidence early in the season. Sophomore Ben Rosario commented that "It was promising to beat the team that placed second in the state last year." Senior captain Tim Chik led the varsity Harriers with a 3rd place finish and a time of 17:57.

Also showing strong performances on the varsity level were sophomore Ben Rosario in 5th and junior Joe

see RUN FOR YOUR LIFE, page 8

Run For Your Life

(continued from page 5)

Donnelly in 6th, with times of 18:23 and 18:53, respectively. Demonstrating the potent Jr Bill "pack attack," along with Rosario and Donnelly, the rest of the top seven included seniors Ben Fanson and Joel Brown, junior Tim Blessing, and sophomore John Ramsey. The quartet held places 7 through 10 with times of 18:56, 19:04, 19:06, and 19:10, respectively. Varsity head coach Jim Linhares commented, "It was a really important win; it says that the potential that we knew was there really was there. Although they did not see us at our best, we did what we needed to win."

With a win of its own, the junior varsity team once again proved that it was a dominant force in the area. The squad's

attack was led by sophomore Chris Graesser, who won the JV race with a time of 18:52. Not only did SLUH earn the first place time, but the team had strong performances by senior Shannon Yates in 18:56, senior captain John Flynn in 19:10, and junior Gerry Fitzgerald in 19:16; placing 2nd to 4th, respectively. Rounding out the top seven JV were juniors Ryan Monahan, 6th in 19:52; Luke Voytas nabbed 7th in 19:55; and senior Keith Myers placed 9th in 20:09.

Completing the Harrierbills' three-way sweep was the freshman team's impressive victory in its first interscholastic race as Jr. Bills. The first Jr. Bill freshman to cross the line was Matt Crow, in second place with a time of 12:51 on the two mile course. Filling in the rest of the freshmen top seven—grabbing 2nd through 6th places and 8th—were Matt Schaeffer, 13:04; Sean Burns, 13:12; John McGinnis,

13:12; John Crane, 13:30; and Matt Orlando, 13:31. Their low times give clues to the potential of the freshman as individuals and as a team.

When asked to comment upon the race, Linhares seemed confident in the team's potential but explained that "We beat Parkway South last year on all levels at this meet, but they came back to beat us on the varsity and JV levels by the end of the year. The moral is: it is a long season and we have to be ambitious and patient."

The Harriers are in action again tomorrow at the Northwest House Springs Invitational at Northwest House Springs High School at 10:00 a.m. The varsity and JV are also racing at the Eureka Invitational held at Eureka High School on Tuesday beginning at 4:30 p.m. The Freshmen will have a tri-meet with rivals DeSmet and CBC on Wednesday beginning at 4:00 p.m. on their home course at Forest Park.

Back to Back

(continued from page 7)

Andrzejewski and Tkach also began their drive to the championship. After an opening round victory, the team of Andrzejewski and Tkach eventually fell to Rockwood in the quarterfinals. After the match one spectator commented, "Almost every game went to deuce, and the match could have easily gone to Dan and Brian."

Salinardi and Reither, looked a bit stiff in their opening match, but won convincingly 6-2, 6-4. Later that evening, the two Bills easily defeated their Carthage counterparts 6-0, 6-1.

Martel responded "I've never seen them play this well. They were unbeatable."

After a gutsy comeback against the Kirkwood doubles team in the semifinals, Reither and Salinardi found themselves back in the finals. The Bills duo was both errorless and unbeatable. Salinardi's consistent serve and perfect volley, accompanied by the power of Reither's serve and groundstrokes brought the duo to the top of their game by the time they reached the finals. There they breezed 6-2, 6-3 and were once again crowned Division 4A champions.

Despite missing their graduation commencement, the two were elated after their run. After the win Reither noted that "defending the title this year was much harder than winning it last year." Salinardi agreed, "Last year, nobody really knew us or expected us to win; but, this year they were all gunning for us."

Baby Blue Socks

(continued from page 5)

Several times SLUH threatened to add to the lead. Sophomore phenom Taylor Twellman thrilled the crowd when he slid and volleyed a cross from senior sweeper Dave Snodgrass, ringing the crossbar. However, SLUH failed to light up the scoreboard. As it turned out, the Martelbills were saving their ammunition for the unfortunate Cavaliers of DuBourg.

After the impressive 3-1 victory in game one, SLUH came out surprisingly sluggish in the first half. Neither the Jr. Bills nor the Cavs mounted any serious scoring threats in the first half. Attempts by forwards Twellman and senior Kevin Hogan proved fruitless as the half ended in a scoreless tie.

As the second half began, the Jr. Bills looked rejuvenated and just fifteen minutes into the period, recaptured the form of their first game when Twellman was sent on a breakaway by Standley. The sophomore calmly pocketed his first goal of the season, slipping the sphere past the sprawling goalkeeper.

The Soccerbills jumped up 2-0 when, 10 minutes later, senior midfielder Matt Powers rumbled past two DuBourg defenders leaving him one on one with the goalie, whom he beat on the short side. As the game

drew to a close, the referee awarded the Bills with a penalty kick after a scramble in front of the Cavalier net. Sophomore Tim Gibbons responded by curling his shot inside the left post and putting the game out of reach. With the 3-0 clinic, senior goalie Mike Hendricks nabbed the first shutout of the young season.

In their next outing, the Martelbills easily handled the hapless Falcons of Rockwood Summit 3-0. Bolstered by two assists and a goal by Powers, the squad managed to remain undefeated.

In their first test of the CBC tournament, Martel's squad fell short to the hosts Cadets 4-1, despite a spirited performance from the Blue Crew who showed up at CBC with over 120 painted SLUH fanatics. SLUH's lone goal came from the lethal feet of Standley. Commenting on the loss, Eilerman said, "We played well, but a few mental lapses cost us the game. The score certainly didn't reflect our quality of play."

Martel isn't discouraged by the CB setback. "This is the most intelligent, self-motivated team I have had in the last three years. They make adjustments and learn from their mistakes." The squad attempted to prove Martel right when they met Vianney at 6pm Thursday evening. Check the PN "Nightlights" on page six to see if they did.