

DETHRONED!

After 10-4 Defeat, Polobills No Longer Tops in the State

by Mike Hayes
Prep News Sports Reporter

The varsity water polo Jr. Billikens hoped to cap off a spectacular regular season with a 4th straight-state championship last week. Their hopes were dashed, however, by arch-rival MICDS last Saturday night.

After narrowly escaping the previous night's contest with Parkway South with a 9-8 victory, the Polobills were primed for the finals. Unfortunately for the Aquajocks, the Rams also came to play. After SLUH knotted up the score at one apiece on a Doug Maitz goal, the game gradually began to slip away. Despite receiving a Jeff Maitz goal midway through the second quarter, the Busenbills found themselves in a 5-2 hole at halftime.

The team entered the second half still harboring hopes of a victory. "We knew we were a team capable of coming back

from a deficit like that. Tonight wasn't our night, though," junior Neil Asinger said. Tucker Korte and the elder Maitz tallied second half goals, but they weren't enough to overcome a lack of defensive

year." He continued, "We didn't get any breaks or calls, and when that happens you've got to capitalize on your opportunities. That is what we didn't do tonight."

Despite ending the season on a low note, assistant coach Paul Baudendistel believes the players have reason to hold their heads high. "It says a lot about these guys when they are upset at not winning it all. Any other team would be thrilled to be in their spot." He emphasized, "These seniors enjoyed some of the greatest success in SLUH sports history; they should feel nothing but pride in themselves."

"It was one heck of a run," said Mr. Richard Wehner, Athletic Director.

So when seniors Tony Paster, Tucker Korte, Doug Maitz, Mike Hayes, Jake Siegel, Sean Callahan, Mike Keane, and Matt Fetter look back on their days as SLUH water polo players, pride is inevitably all they will feel.



Tony Paster frantically tries to rally the troops.

intensity and missed opportunities on offense. The final score was 10-4.

Commenting on the game, coach Charlie Busenhart said, "We just picked a bad night to play our worst game of the

Disappointing Day at State Disheartens Harriers

by Keith Myers
Prep News Sports Reporter

In the last four years this reporter has never seen a state meet where the competition was as intense as it was in Jefferson City. The pack of runners was huge. It stayed together for most of race. I have never seen a state race where at the two-mile mark there were at least six runners still competing fiercely for first place.

The SLUH Harriers ended their season last weekend, competing in the State Cross-country Finals with the best teams and the best individual runners in Missouri, placing 16th. Placing 16th does

mean, however, that SLUH runners proved they were one of the best cross-country teams in the state, finishing ahead of approximately 60 4A teams that competed in Missouri this year.

According to Coach Tom Flanagan, "We ran the pack race; the guys could see each other, but there were a whole lot of people in between them." The team had an outstanding pack, but in a race like this weekend, it is conceivable to have 20 runners finish in a five-second time frame. SLUH ran the type of pack strategy that it usually does. Unfortunately the pack needed to be farther up in the race to be effective. The top seven individually ran

see SWEET SIXTEEN, page 9



Seniors Joel Brown and John Flynn battle through the herds.

Sweet Sixteen

(continued from page 7)

very good times, according to Flanagan; "Almost all of the team ran better times than they did at the sectional race."

Head Coach Jim Linhares explained, "It was an astonishingly fast race, historically one of the fastest state meets." This speed could have resulted from a combination of ideal weather conditions and a slightly altered course that reduced the effect of a grueling hill. Most likely it was due to the amount of cross-country talent this year. Linhares added, "Strangely enough [even though we placed 16th] it was the second fastest times we've run as a team at the state meet."

Linhares attributed the team's finish to the fact that, "we didn't get out fast enough in the first mile." He used the analogy that "it was like being behind a wall; it was too much to make up."

Leading the Jr. Bills was senior Ben Fanson placing 61st with a time of 17:20. Senior Captain Tim Chik placed 71st with a time of 17:28, and following Chik came the pack of senior Captain John Flynn 99th with a time of 17:40 and junior Eric Monda 101st at 17:41. The next Jr. Bill to cross the line was junior Joe Donnelly at 114th finishing at 17:48. Rounding out the Harriers were senior Joel Brown 131st and sophomore Ben Rosario 139th with times of 18:01 and 18:12 respectively.

Overall, the season for SLUH was a great success. The varsity team was the champion of the MCC conference for the 4th year. They were also the champions of the Eureka Invitational. SLUH placed 2nd in the Parkway West Invitational and the Metro Invitational. SLUH earned the District Championship. "[the team was] the best pack of runners in SLUH history; the other meets prove it," commented Linhares.

When I asked Tim Chik how he would describe this year's team and season, I could sense the pride in his voice when he said "overall it was a good season; I guess a disappointment like state can sour the season, but we gave it all we had and nothing can take that away from us. I was proud of the team for all the hard work and dedication that they put into the season."

My Name is Mudd

(continued from page 6)

Playing their first home game against DeSmet, the Bills started the game slowly, trailing 21-0 at the half. Center/kicker Tony Plein commented, "We were confident coming into the game, but our first half mistakes really hurt us which [DeSmet] took advantage of." Coming back in the second half strongly, running back Chris Mudd ran five yards into the endzone for SLUH's first touchdown. This run was followed in the fourth quarter by a 12-yard pass from Liebert to wide receiver Chris Carroll for the second touchdown of the game. Mudd acknowledged, "We really woke up in the second half and realized what we had to do. Turnovers hurt us in the [first half]." The final score ended 21-12, Spartans.

Rejuvenated after this difficult loss, the Bills overcame the Chaminade Flyers with a very respectable outing of 32-0. Returning from his shoulder injury, Mike Carmody accounted for two of the touchdowns with a pass to receiver Josh Desfalvey and an 11-yard run of his own. "You really have to credit the offensive and defensive lines in this game; they played well," said cornerback Matt Noce.

Facing CBC's run-and-shoot offense which had previously averaged 30 points a game, the Bills had a tough time ahead of them. Citing this game as the high point of the season, according to offensive linemen Justin Noetzel and Kevin O'Keefe, the team struck quickly with a six yard run into the endzone by Chris Mudd. Guaranteeing the victory was a crisp Liebert pass to

receiver Desfalvey for a touchdown in the third quarter. Linebacker Joe Weir commented, "This was the game I think we were all thinking about and building up for." Holding the volatile CBC offense to zero points, and winning by a final score of 12-0, coach Mr. Matt Sciuto attributed an important factor as a "great performance by the secondary." In winning this game, the Bills achieved a co-title share of the MCC title with CBC.

Coming off this stunning victory, the Bills trounced the Beaumont Blue Jackets by a score of 33-0. Highlighting the game in the first quarter was receiver Tom Anstey with a 60-yard run to the endzone after receiving a Carmody pass. Heading over to Hazelwood East as a replacement game for the Sumner matchup, the Bills lost 45-7. Coach Sciuto said, "The [Hazelwood East and Kirkwood] losses were similar. We weren't ready mentally or physically and their defenses put a lot of pressure on our quarterbacks." The last game of the year played at SLUH was against Roosevelt. The Bills defeated the Roughriders handily by a score of 35-6.

In reaction to the the turnovers which plagued the Bills during certain parts of the season, Sciuto commented, "I think it's really apparent this year that some of the turnovers that we were committing were due to the varsity-type offense we were playing; these new complexities gave us some problems."

"They're a great group of kids, as well as football players, who seemed to get along well, which made it enjoyable to coach," added assistant coach Mr. Tim O'Keefe about the season.

Bashball '95 Tournament

Tomorrow morning, 14 teams will battle the frigid temperatures and biting winds to celebrate the grand old SLUH tradition of Bashball, a meshing of basketball, soccer, and hockey. The tournament, which will take place in the SLUH Stadium, will be played by the outdoor rules, which deviate from the more familiar rules of PE Class Bashball. Each team is allowed six players on the frozen tundra at one time, and these players can run with the ball until they are tagged (not tackled,

although checking is allowed), and then must rid themselves of the sacred sphere as soon as humanly possible. A goal is scored when the ball passes the goal line completely; two points are awarded for a kicked ball and one point for a thrown ball. Soccer dribbling is permitted. The contests will begin at approximately 10a.m., and will run through the late afternoon. Fans are welcome to enjoy one of the finest athletic endeavors of all time, free of charge.