

Soccer Prepares For Run At State Title

BY MARK GREBEL

SPORTS REPORTER

After last season's crushing loss to the CBC Cadets in the state quarterfinals, the SLUH varsity soccer team is back to make sure this season doesn't end quite so early.

The team will again be led by Head Coach Mr. Charles Martel and assistant Mr. Terry Murray. This year's squad is lead by senior co-captains Taylor Twellman, Joe Orso, Brian Missey, and Dave Beck.

Twellman should bring world-class offensive skills to the team, although he will be missing the first half of the season due to his obligations to play on the national team. He will be back in time for the state tournament, and depending on how the national team plays in Egypt, he could be back by the 13th of September.

While Twellman is away, returning

seniors Tim Gibbons and Pat Martin will start at forward, while Joe Orso and Dave Beck will anchor the midfield. Also in the midfield will be senior Chris Bartell and junior Kevin McCabe.

Last year's starting goalkeeper and co-captain Brian Missey will again be patrolling the net. Junior Ryan Ossola, a three-year varsity player, and senior Greg Schaller will be leading the backfield with junior Tim Vogelgesang and junior Dan Snodgrass on the wings.

With 16 players returning to the team, experience should be an advantage for the Jr. Bills at this year's state tournament. According to Martel, the team's chances to succeed in the state tournament "are as good as everyone else's."

The Jr. Bills will open the season at St. Charles West on September 2 at 7:00 p.m..



Pharoah Twellman moving the ball down the field. He will miss part of the season playing in Egypt.

PHOTO BY JUSTIN WOODARD

Depth And Experience Key To Cross Country Success

BY SCOTT LAUER AND BEN ROSARIO

SPORTS REPORTERS

The 1997 SLUH cross-country team looks to improve on last year's respectable ninth place finish at the state meet.

The success of this year's team will be helped by its numbers, with nearly eighty runners out for the team.

This year's squad returns four runners with state meet experience, including senior tri-captains Ben Rosario, John Christie, and Chris Graesser, as well as last year's sophomore phenom Ken Reichert. The team also is strengthened by the return of seniors John Ramsey, Luke Schulte, and honorary captain Scott Lauer, who has already displayed leadership in early workouts. Many runners attended prestigious training camps over the summer at several colleges, including the University of Arkansas, the reigning NCAA national champions.

While some attended camps, many

others were busy logging mileage at home and weight training. The result is a varsity team coming into the season ready to establish themselves as one of the top teams in the state.

This year's talented JV and freshman teams are also ready to dominate their races and challenge the varsity for the top seven spots.

Said Head Coach Jim Linhares, "Our hopes are as high as they have ever been since the state championship team of 1961."

The entire team will compete in its first meet of the season next Wednesday against perennial rival and area powerhouse Parkway South in Forest Park at 4pm. The following Saturday the varsity and JV teams will compete against the best teams in the Midwest at the Mizzou Sportshake Invitational in Columbia.

Volleybills Take Title

compiled by Prep News Sports Staff

The state of Missouri has sponsored only two state championship tournaments for volleyball. The Jr. Billikens have now one half of them.

After storming through the regular season, the volleyball team faced arch-rival DeSmet, who had beaten them earlier in the season, for the state championship.

The team prepared itself for its biggest challenge of the season, but DeSmet was simply overmatched. The Volleybills coasted to victory 15-10, 15-6 over the Spartans.

Head Coach Paul Scovil summed up the season. "It was a great year,

and the guys worked really hard. They came into the season focused upon the state title, and through their determination, they pulled it off," he said.

PN Nightbeat

Last night in football action, the Blue Team defeated the White Team, 14-0. The Jr. Billikens will take on the Hazelwood East Spartans Sept. 6 at 6:00 p.m. at the TWA Dome in beautiful downtown St. Louis.