

October 3, 1997

## Sports

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# Varsity Gridbills Open Conference

BY CHRIS KELLETT  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Varsity Gridbills opened their conference schedule last Friday by running over the Golden Griffins of Vianney, 22-6. More specifically, senior running back Dan Harvath ran over the Griffins. He finished the game with over 220 yards rushing and two touchdowns.

"What can I say," commented Harvath, "the line blocked well, Jordan Rouff blocked real well, and the receivers had some key blocks also." Harvath's great running, along with that solid and consistent blocking, allowed the Jr. Bill offense to move the ball well during the game.

On SLUH's first possession, sophomore quarterback Mark Kornfeld ran into the end zone from three yards out on a quarterback sneak. The extra point from senior kicker Chris Linck gave the Footbills a 7-0 first quarter lead.

SLUH scored once again on the next possession as Harvath sprinted in from six

yards out. A two point conversion on another quarterback sneak from Kornfeld resulted in an early 15-0 lead.

The success on offense was bolstered by the excellent play of the Jr. Bill defense. The squad was able to keep Vianney's passing game to a minimum, and contain the Griffin's heavy-option attack while forcing two fumbles. Both were recovered by senior cornerback Jim Vreeland.

Vianney's lone score came in the second quarter on a 15 yard run. Senior free safety Chris Carroll added to his interception total this year by picking off a pass near the Griffin sideline, and hard hitting senior cornerback John Shipp led the team with seven tackles.

Special teams played a crucial role in the game as well. Two mistakes in the second quarter nearly jeopardized lead. As the team was punting deep in SLUH territory, a bad snap resulted in the ball sailing over the head of sophomore punter Joe Thaman. Thaman recovered the ball and kicked it before being tackled,

thereby saving the defense from a tough first and goal situation against the Griffins.

Disaster nearly struck again in the second half when Carroll fumbled a Vianney punt dangerously near the goal line. Fortunately, Vreeland alertly pounced on the ball before it rolled in the end zone, preventing a possible Vianney touchdown. An apparently confused official did initially rule the play a touchdown, but changed his ruling to a touchback later after a conference with the other officials.

On SLUH's next to last possession, Harvath once again found the end zone. This time it was on a 29 yard along the Jr. Bill sidelines. After the defense stopped the Griffins on fourth down for the last time, the offense ran out the clock, giving the Footbills a 22-6 victory and a 1-0 record in the MCC.

The varsity squad looks to improve its record to 4-1 next Friday as they take on the Wolverines of Vashon. Kickoff time is 7 p.m. in the SLUH stadium.

## Cross Country Crushes Opposition at Hancock Race

BY SCOTT LAUER AND BEN ROSARIO  
SPORTS REPORTERS

The cross country team placed second in the annual Hancock Invitational last Saturday held at Jefferson Barracks in South County.

To finish in the top three at the Hancock Invitational is an accomplishment that few teams ever achieve. The winning team often becomes the state champion and the runners-up consistently bring home a plaque from the state meet.

The varsity cross country team lived up to its #1 area ranking last Saturday with their second place finish, thus closing the gap between itself and the undefeated defending state champion Jefferson City Jays. As well as defeating MCC rivals

CBC and DeSmet, the team defeated West Plains for the first time during the coach Jim Linhares era.

The team placed two runners in the top 10, and four in the top 20, with six of the top seven runners medaling. At the start of the race, the team sped to the front, attacking the difficult course and its famed "Surprise Hill." Senior Ben Rosario ran with the race leaders and came across the line in fourth place, the first runner to finish for the Jr. Bills. This mark has been bettered only once in the last ten years by a runner from SLUH.

John Christie followed Rosario with a 10th place finish, running a gutsy race and a fast time of 17:07. Seniors Chris Graesser and Scott Lauer ran together for most of the race, finishing 17th and 20th

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## Soccer Places 4th In Tourney

BY MARK GREBEL  
SPORTS REPORTER

The SLUH soccer team snatched fourth place in the annual CYO tournament held at the Anheuser-Busch Sports Complex over the weekend.

On Thursday, the team promptly dismissed St. Mary's by a score of 5-0. In the game, the Twellman brothers combined for three goals. Taylor scored two himself, and younger brother James racked up his second goal of the season. Brad Schaper also scored in the game on a shot that hit the bottom of the crossbar and bounced in the goal. But junior forward Jeff Brown had the shot of the game. His shot eluded both the Dragon's defense and the goalie.

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Unfortunately, junior Justin Struttman was injured in the first half of the game. He was elbowed above his eye and had to be taken to the hospital to receive stitches.

The win secured the team a chance to play top ranked Chaminade in the semifinals on Friday night.

Goalie Brian Missey came up with some truly acrobatic saves against Chaminade, but could not prevent a goal early on. The players accordingly stepped up their intensity. With less than five minutes to play in the game, James Twellman blasted a bouncing ball in front of the goal into the net.

The Jr. Bills showed obvious excitement over the goal, but did not finish as strongly as they would have liked. Chaminade scored with about thirty seconds left in the game, destroying the Jr. Bills' spirit, and handing them a heartbreaking 2-1 loss.

The loss meant that the team would not advance to the finals. They instead played Aquinas-Mercy, who lost to Vianney, in the third place game.

The Kickers, frustrated from the Chaminade loss, were again frustrated by this game, which they lost 2-0. They simply failed to get anything started on the offensive side of the game, even when an Aquinas player received a red card, forcing his team to play a man short.

The loss meant that the team would claim fourth place for the tournament, which is a respectable finish, though not all that the team was hoping for. Their tournament record fell to 3-4-1.

Monday, the squad came back to the comforts of home to beat the Hawks of Hazelwood Central, 3-0.

With ten minutes left in the first half, a Hawks player was given a yellow card, which would prove to be a premonition to the way Hazelwood Central would play the rest of the game: the team was to receive four more yellow cards. SLUH received only one yellow card, keeping its composure even with the dirty play of the Hawks.

Taylor Twellman scored two goals in the game. In the first half he tapped in a pass from Dave Beck and headed a ball in over the goalie in the second half. Matt Sebek added a goal to the cause, heading a ball from a crossing pass by Chris Bartell. Junior Doug Kerr recorded the complete game shutout for the team, coming up with some great saves.

On Wednesday, the team avenged its loss to Aquinas-Mercy by facing its team again last Wednesday, and by winning with a score of 3-2.

Only eight minutes into the game, miscommunication on a corner kick resulted in an Aquinas goal. The Bills, fearing another loss at the hands of Aquinas, started playing smarter, as well as harder. Sebek bombed a shot into the goal with nine minutes left in the first half.

In an unfortunate play for the Jr. Bills, Aquinas scored again, putting them up by one. The Jr. Bills responded to the goal with a goal of their own, a senior Pat Martin put in the tying goal for SLUH with about 9 minutes left in the second half. Taylor Twellman scored the winning goal two minutes later, bringing his season total to 13.

### **Varsity Soccer Schedule—October**

|       |                             |             |         |
|-------|-----------------------------|-------------|---------|
| 10/4  | Vianney                     | Away        | 7:00 pm |
| 10/6  | Hudson Memorial Tourney-Fox | Soccer Park | 8:15 pm |
| 10/7  | HMS-Webster Groves          | Soccer Park | 6:30 pm |
| 10/9  | HMS-St. Mary's              | Soccer Park | 7:00 pm |
| 10/10 | HMS-Semi-final games        | Soccer Park | 8:30 pm |
| 10/11 | HMS-Championship game       | Soccer Park | 7:30 pm |
| 10/14 | Rockwood Summit             | Away        | 6:00 pm |
| 10/16 | Francis Howell North        | Home        | 6:30 pm |
| 10/18 | Belleville East             | Away        | 1:00 pm |
| 10/20 | Granite City                | Home        | 6:30 pm |
| 10/25 | Chaminade                   | Home        | 7:00 pm |
| 10/27 | Rosary                      | Home        | 6:30 pm |
| 10/30 | Duchesne                    | Away        | 7:00 pm |

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with times of 17:24 and 17:31, respectively. Sophmores Ted Snodgrass and Murphy O'Brien both medaled placing 26th and 29th in 17:39 and 17:42, and sophomore Mark Monda rounded out the top seven.

Assistant coach and former SLUH standout Rob Behm was ecstatic about the team's performance. "We really stepped up today and showed the rest of St. Louis what kind of team we have and what we're capable of," he said.

However, he cautioned that the varsity team should not take its success for granted, telling everyone that the runners "still need to show up for all the hard workouts if they want to have a shot at beating Jefferson City."

The JV and B teams also displayed courage and determination in their races. The JV, led by junior Ken Reichert and senior Luke Schulte, who ran outstanding races, defeated Jeff City and established themselves as the finest junior varsity team in the state. Reichert, who "hurt real bad" early in the race, broke through the pain and finished in second place with a time of 18:06, earning him a place on the varsity top seven. Schulte finished fourth, passing two Jeff City runners in the last 800 meters. Commenting on his performance, Schulte said, "I've never run that fast in my whole life."

The rest of the JV squad surprised the competition as well. sophomore Matt Crow, juniors Alex Speiser, Matt Schaeffer, John Senn, and senior John Ramsey completed the list of top JV finishers, all of whom medaled.

The B-team finished third, led by sophomore Matt Brice in 7th place with a time of 18:36. Following Brice were freshmen David Godar and Adam Chadwick, and sophmores Tim Huegerich and Nathan Tower.

The team competes tomorrow at the Parkway West Invitational to be held at Parkway Central High School.