

## Varsity Soccer Rebounds from Losing Streak

by Jim Cosgrove  
of the Prep News Staff

The varsity Soccerbills came into this week's games hoping to make up for their losses to McCluer North and Rosary. The Bills did just that as they defeated the Falcons of Aquinas-Mercy and avenged a loss to CBC.

The Jr. Bills' game Wednesday against Aquinas-Mercy marked the return of senior captain Jeremy Moore to the Jr. Bills lineup after his jaw injury.

The first half was rather uneventful as neither team could control the action for any length of time. Both sides failed to take advantage of a couple of breakaways and the half ended in a 0-0 stalemate.

In the second half, the Bills began to dominate play offensively. SLUH broke the deadlock 9:48 into the second half on a goal by junior Damon Rensing assisted by Moore.

The Bills continued their dominant play in the second half offensively and defensively but were unable to capitalize on any more scoring opportunities. The

game ended in a 1-0 SLUH victory.

The Bills went into last Saturday's game against CBC determined to put an end to their two-game losing streak. Midfield play was evenly matched during the first half, resulting in few shot attempts.

SLUH was able to break the tie when senior Todd Bruemer took the ball the length of the field and toed it towards the post, where it was deflected in for a 1-0 SLUH lead with 10:13 remaining in the first half.

The SLUH offense struck again with 8:36 remaining in the half when senior Matt Casey adeptly headed in a fine Brian Flanagan pass.

The Cadets were able to score with 28:05 remaining in the second half. However, the Bills' defense was too strong for the Cadets, who were unable to notch another goal.

Head Coach Ebbie Dunn attributed this victory to what he characterized as "outstanding play" from seniors Casey, Flanagan and Scott Zarinelli and solid play

See MORE, page 10

## Runners Look To Hit Stride at Regionals

by Ryan Fagan  
of the Prep News Staff

In the toughest competition that it will face until the regional meet, the varsity cross country team placed fourth in the 26-team large schools division of the Hancock Invitational behind only West Plains, Northwest House Springs, and Parkway West.

In the week preceding the meet, SLUH had hoped to contend with NW House Springs and last year's state champion, Parkway West.

However, the team suffered a blow when junior Tim Probst was lost to sickness, and junior Gene Marshall, who still figures to be among the fastest on the team, has not yet regained his level of performance after suffering an ankle injury last month. Steve Brock-  
See CROSS COUNTRY, page 9

## Rams Need Five Overtimes to Sink Polobills

by Dave Renard  
Prep News Reporter

"You guys shouldn't be disappointed, because you played your guts out and did the best you can do," said Coach Charlie Busenhart on Friday night. This comment to his team came in response to the Varsity Polobills' heartbreaking 6-5 loss to district favorite Country Day Rams on Friday night after three grueling overtime periods.

The Polobills, who came into the game as underdogs, showed their strength and fighting spirit by scoring the first goal; Brad Downs' tally early in the first period made it 1-0. Two minutes

See OFF THE DEEP END, page 9

## Gridbills Ride Schnur's Arm to 35-7 Romp

by Scott Witte  
of the Prep News Staff

Area football fans anticipated a close game as two of the area's best collided when SLUH faced off with Belleville East Friday night before a large homecoming crowd at Belleville Township Stadium. Many expected a repeat of last year's 37-35 thriller, which East won on a field goal with 15 seconds remaining in the game to overcome a dramatic Jr. Bill rally in the fourth quarter. But to the surprise of all, this year's rematch wasn't even close.

SLUH, ranked #5 in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* large school football poll going into the game, cruised to a 35-7 blowout of the Lancers, who took a #7 *Post-Dispatch* ranking into the showdown.

The score didn't even tell the full tale of Jr. Bill domination. The Gridbills (4-0)

ran the ball at will, and masterfully mixed in the the deadly arm of quarterback Steve Schnur (144 yds, 3 touchdowns) as they racked up 413 total yards on offense. The success was partially due to the work of the offensive line. Coach Gary Kornfeld admitted, "I was really worried, I didn't think we'd dominate the line of scrimmage like we did. I was very happy on both sides of the ball."

Kornfeld's reasons for pleasure were evident as the Jr. Bills ran up a 28-0 lead in the first half, scoring on every one of their possessions of the first half as well as stopping all of the Lancer drives in the first half with tough defense.

The Jr. Bills started their scoring ways with a defensive twist. On the Lancers' first series, senior tackle Jim Guntli recovered a Lancer fumble at the Lancer 25 yard line. The Jr. Bills wasted no time in driving the 75 yards to the Lancer endzone,

See PIGSKIN, page 10

## Tretter, Craft Merit All-American Diving Distinction

### Sports Wittecisms

by Scott Witte  
Prep News Sports Columnist

SLUH's fall varsity sports are all enjoying good seasons, and based on the early performances of the underclassmen this year, the SLUH sports scene looks good for years to come. On the JV front, the water polo team is 8-0 and according to sophomore Brian Kearns, "We're looking forward to an undefeated season." The team is led in scoring by freshman Mike Zimmerman and hasn't allowed more than 5 goals in any of their games. The JV cross country team placed fifth out of 25 teams at the Hancock Invitational.

On the B-team front, the sophomores are enjoying much of the same success. The B-team Harriers are enjoying a prosperous season, as is the entire cross country program. The Bee's latest team finish was an impressive fourth place finish at the Hancock Invitational.

In other sophomore sports news, the B-Footbills are undefeated at 4-0. Their defense has outscored the opposition's offense five touchdowns to five. Standout running back Craig Sahrman, who leads the team with nine touchdowns, commented, "You can only gain as many yards as your linemen allow you to through their hard work and blocking in the trenches."

The Killer Bees are at it again. The B-soccer team has raced its way to a 5-1-2 record under the direction of coach Tom McCarthy. Their next game is against DeSmet Friday night at SLUH in what will certainly be a stiff test for their balanced offensive attack.

Finally, the freshman sports front looks successful early in the season. The C-cross country team placed fourth in the Hazelwood Invitational, and the freshman soccer team has racked up four victories to go with their one loss and two ties so far this year. In a final freshman note, the C-Footbills have gone 3-0 thus far and have given up only six points on defense. They have ten quarters of

See ALL-AMERICAN, page 10

## JV Harriers Excel as Team Members Make Challenge for Varsity Positions

by Mike Kenney  
Prep News Reporter

The varsity cross country team has earned high honors in its first five meets this season, winning two and running to a close second at the Eureka Invitational, an impressive third at the Hazelwood Invitational, and fourth place at the Hancock Invitational.

The team's success can be attributed to many factors: fine conditioning, an excellent coaching staff, stiff competition, and the hope of excelling at the state meet.

But perhaps the varsity's strongest motivation is the pressure placed on them by their own junior varsity teammates. Coach Jim Linhares acknowledged this, saying that the pressure is "pretty significant, because varsity runners in positions four through seven can't feel safe" about maintaining their varsity spots. Ryan Fagan, who has run on both the varsity and junior varsity squads, added, "When you're on varsity, the JV team is always a threat to topple you from the top seven."

To date, eight JV runners have earned varsity spots by outrunning their varsity counterparts. In light of this record, the junior varsity has indeed proved to be a significant threat. However, the JV Harriers are not just a threat to SLUH's varsity but have also faced down competition from other teams.

After five meets, the JV cross country team is 4-1, and in most cases has displayed total dominance.

In their first meet the JV Runbills swept past Parkway South and Vianney, as they took the first eleven places and earned a perfect score of 15. Seniors Steve Brockland (19:04) and Jeff Bierling (19:24) finished first and second, respectively. By doing so, they gained varsity distinction. Seniors Josh Wheeler, John Brooks, and Bob Bryant rounded out the scoring with outstanding races.

At the South Paw Invitational, the "We-wanna-be-varsity-Bills" continued their winning ways. Despite sweltering heat and a strong field of nine teams, they finished fifty-three points ahead of their closest contender, CBC. Matt Heebner claimed a top seven spot as he

won the JV race with a time of 19:43, after he missed the first meet with a knee injury. Seniors Chris Schmidt (20:05) and Mike Kenney (20:30) had strong races and finished third and fifth, respectively.

As the temperature cooled off at the Eureka Invitational, the JV Linharriers breezed past a seven team field to capture their third consecutive victory. Brooks ran a superlative race, finishing second overall with a time of 18:12, and replaced Fagan on varsity. Kenney finished fourth in 18:30 and junior Matt Dougherty came in right on his heels with an 18:33.

The JV squad faced its first real test at the Hazelwood Invitational, yet prevailed over a massive 30 team competition and the infamous "Manmaker" hill. Fagan, Schmidt, and Kenney pushed each other well and continuously swapped places throughout the race as they chased a trio of Jefferson City runners.

Fagan played an instrumental role in defeating Jeff City as he eventually caught one of their runners and finished in third place (18:46). Schmidt (18:52), Kenney (19:00), and Dougherty (19:07) held on to finish fifth, sixth, and eighth respectively. Bryant also medaled as he ran to an impressive 19:35. These strong efforts merited a 34-40 first place victory over Jefferson City.

Coach Linhares said of the junior varsity's second consecutive Hazelwood Invitational championship, "I was very impressed with it, because I'm sure that Jeff City came out intending to beat us." Unlike last year's narrow victory, however, Linhares said, "We really got them pretty decisively. We ran with them in positions 1-3, and we were significantly better in 4-7."

The JV Linharriers faced their toughest competition last Saturday at the Hancock Invitational. Overall, the team had a disappointing showing and finished fifth. However, Heebner (18:42, 4th), Dougherty (18:54, 11th), Nahm (19:28, 20th), Wheeler (20:17, 38th), and Ken Ferrigni (20:20, 40th) each turned in strong performances the junior varsity finished behind West Plains, Lafayette, Parkway West, and Northwest House Springs. Both Heebner and Dougherty earned varsity spots.



## Cross Country

(continued from page 7)

land also experienced health problems, and Jeff Bierling's ability to run was questionable up to the day of the race because of recurring knee problems.

Health problems aside, SLUH ran very well and put away most of the competition early in the race. The Harriers also triumphed in their first meetings with DeSoto, ranked sixth in the *Suburban Journal's* cross country poll, and Cape Girardeau Central, a team SLUH will face in this year's regional meet.

Finishing times and places for the Top Seven in the field of nearly two-hundred runners were: Sean Lock (16:29, 2nd), Jeff Bierling (18:01, 36th), John Miles (18:13, 42nd), Ryan Fagan (18:33, 60th), Steve Brockland (18:41, 68th), Chris Schmidt (19:15, 93rd), and Gene Marshall (19:44, 114th).

In addition, Matt Heebner and Matt Dougherty qualified for this week's Top Seven when they ran the JV race in 18:42 (4th place) and 18:54 (11th place), respectively.

More important than the Hancock Invitational to the team's ultimate success will be SLUH's performance at the regional meet. Regional team assignments were announced this week, and once again, SLUH was placed in a relatively tough division.

Though many area coaches have lamented the unfairness of the regional assignments,

## Off the Deep End

(continued from page 7)

later, after a CODASCO kickoff, a pass inside to Peter Clifford in the ensuing six-on-five power play resulted in a goal stuffed into the net at close range, making the score 2-0. This score stood through the first half, with the brilliant SLUH defense killing two separate one-man deficits to hold the powerful Rams scoreless.

The Rams were too strong to be contained forever, however. In the third quarter, a quick drive from the point and a high corner shot resulted in the Rams' first goal; their second came from a shot off the perimeter on a six-on-five. With momentum temporarily swinging their way, the Rams took a 3-2 lead on a breakaway skip shot at the start of period four.

Halfway through the period, Paul Granneman was able to steal the ball deep in Country Day's end of the pool, and gained a four-meter penalty shot after being stopped from behind on his breakaway. Downs put the penalty shot in to tie the game up once again at 3-3. Another CODASCO goal with about 1:30 left made the Aquajocks' future look grim. The crushing blow came when Peter Clifford

SLUH still figures to advance through to the state meet. Coach Jim Linhares acknowledged that "regionals aren't fair, but I think we're going to get a lot better" and "something will have really gone wrong [if we don't advance]."

Strong evidence to support this prediction is the team's record thus far against teams they will face in their regional. The teams in SLUH's regional that present a threat to the team are Parkway West, Parkway South, CBC, Oakville, Mehlville, Cape Girardeau Central, and Webster Groves. Of those teams, only Parkway West has outrun the Harriers.

Unfortunately, last year's team faced essentially the same outlook, but performances declined at the season's end. As a result, teams that SLUH had easily beaten early in the season caught up with and beat them by the regional race.

To avoid this decline, Linhares has designed a workout schedule intended to put the team's very best performance at the regional meet. He has scheduled two intense speed workouts, practices that are crucial to further improvement once a team has achieved good physical condition.

Intending to reap the benefit of these speed workouts, the Harriers will go after Parkway West tomorrow morning at the Parkway West Invitational.

got his third kickoff foul, ejecting him from the game and giving the Rams a six on five advantage with forty seconds remaining.

In a brilliant defensive move, SLUH stole the ball and passed it down the pool to Downs. His shorthanded lob shot with three seconds remaining sent the game into overtime and the large SLUH crowd erupted.

After a five minute break, the teams came out for the first of two 3:00 overtime periods, with the teams switching ends. The Rams scored in the first overtime, but Matt Hutson tallied his first goal of the game in the second part of overtime, and teams entered sudden death tied 5-5.

After one three-minute sudden death period went by with nothing but close calls, the next brought a penalty shot for the Rams in the deep end—which is more difficult for a goalie to defend. As the crowd and both teams held their breath, the referee dropped the flag and goalie Israel Jiles made a miraculous save, the ultimate cap to a great night of goalkeeping. The SLUH fans exploded.

Their joy was short-lived, however, for in

## More

(continued from page 7)

from the rest of the team. "We covered defensively well; we went to the ball, and we switched fields well," Dunn summarized.

In the previous week's action, the Rebels of Rosary High School defeated SLUH 3-1. The first half was characterized by many missed scoring opportunities and shots off the posts for the Jr. Bills.

The second half brought with it an end to the Jr. Bills' scoring woes as junior Marty Powers scored his fourth goal of the season. Powers blasted the ball into the net off a pass in front of the net from senior Rob Funke, who made the pass from the ground.

The Jr. Bills allowed Rosary to get back in the game at the 13:41 mark when the Rebels scored on a penalty kick in the box. Despite several chances to regain the lead, the Bills could not capitalize and were forced into overtime.

The Bills were still unable to take advantage of numerous opportunities in overtime. The usually stalwart Bills' defense caved in and allowed the Rebels to put the ball in the net with 4:41 remaining in the first ten minute overtime period.

But Dunn noted, "I thought we played well; we just keep hitting the post and there was nothing the kids can do about it."

the fifth overtime period, with about 1:20 remaining, a mental error on the defensive end left a man open for a cross-goal pass and goal.

The team felt disappointed, but many knew it really was a moral victory. "Now we know they're not invincible," commented one team member. "We can beat them next time, and the time that counts is the district tournament." Many spectators also enjoyed the game; Joe Jordan, who attended the contest, said the game was "really, really long (an hour and 45 minutes). I enjoyed every minute of it."

This Tuesday, the Busenbills got a more heartening result in a vastly less exciting game, defeating Lindbergh 19-9 at Forest Park. Goals came from Downs (6), Kevin Navarro (4), Nick Thole (2), Clifford, Hutson, Clancy, Granneman, Hussman, and Dave Renard.

The highlight of the game was one of the most unusual goals ever: the Lindbergh goalie passed the ball to an unattentive player, and the ball bounced off of his head, over goalie Josh Gibbs (who was coming out to steal the pass), and into the goal. The Bills dominated the offensive game, coming out ahead 19-9.