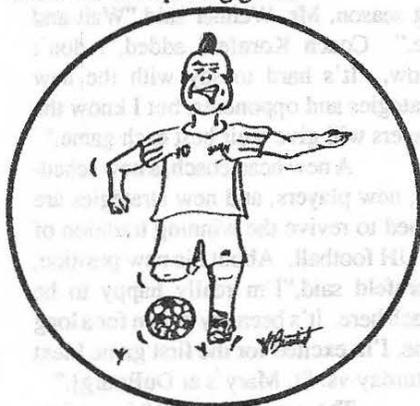


# SPORTS

## Unity to spell success for Dunn's Soccerbills

Led by Coach Ebbie Dunn's co-captains Jason Stueber and Jay Kreikemeier, the Varsity Soccerbills have run and kicked their way through the blistering heat and stifling humidity of Forest Park in preparation for the 1988 season. But the effort has proven worthwhile, for the team is shaping up well. According to Senior Soccerbill Mark Strothkamp, "we have had a few extra days to practice and this has prepared us better for our opening game."



The strength of this year's team lies in the midfield and goal areas and will be further improved by the team's passing ability. "This year's team has a lot of individual talent but is working very hard to make it a team effort for the season," senior Brian Tierney commented. Matt Wohlstader added, "If we play together, we'll be fine; if we play as individuals, we'll have our problems."

Among the talented starters at forward will be the very skillful Tony Ribaldo whose height is a welcome extra to the team. Pat Madigan and Bob Fishbeck, known for their speed and hustle, are sure to add to the Soccerbills goal scoring.

Jason Steuber and Mark Strothkamp will be the main players at midfield, using their variety of skills to help on defense as well as to back up the forwards with their powerful shots. Tim McBride and newcomer John Gambaro

round out the promising half back line.

This year's defense will be controlled by co-captain Jay Kreikemeier and senior Tony Szweda, two very adept defenders. Senior Brian Tierney and junior Chris Schroeder will also see a lot of action in the backfield this year.

The Jr. Bills are extremely strong in the nets. As Coach Dunn said, "We have a problem, but it's a good one—we have two excellent goalies." Both extremely talented seniors, John Eisele and Matt Wohlstader, will see plenty of action in the nets this season. Eisele will most likely start the opening game since Wohlstader has been suffering from minor injuries.

As usual the Jr. Bills face a very tough schedule. This year's top opponents include McCluer North (Sept. 17), CBC (Sept. 24), DeSmet (Sept. 30), and Vian-

ney (Oct. 25). Two surprises to the list will be Oakville (Oct. 10) and Aquinas-Mercy (Oct. 22).

The Soccerbills have an extremely talented bench lead by seniors John Traina and Matt Rieser and junior Brian Leahy. Juniors John Anderson and Britton Taulbee and sophomore Jeff Bannister will be substituting for the forward line. The mid-fielders will consist of Jeff Kreikemeier, Steve Held, Jeff Taylor and Jeff Todt. Juniors Tom Bischof, Kevin Cobb, and Andy Raterman will complete the reserves as fullbacks.

The Soccerbill's first game is on Sept. 2 at 6:00 PM in SLUH stadium against Bishop DuBourg. Coach Dunn added, "This year's team has been working very hard and is really anticipating the start of its season."

Dominic Smith

## Hopes high for experienced Harriers

"We have a lot of reasons to be optimistic this year", said head cross country coach Jim Linhares, speaking of the '88 season's prospects. The return of Mickey Luna, who qualified for the state meet last season as a sophomore, and a slew of returning seniors make these prospects very bright.

For Coach Linhares, new assistant head coach Jerry Harp, and fifteen runners, the pre-season began earlier this summer as the group took off for a week-long training camp in the highlands of Denver Colorado. The benefits of this seminar were not merely physical. Coach Linhares wished to create a positive team spirit and self image for the upcoming season. The Harriers participated in two-a-day workouts, including exercises designed to improve running form. All participants, though exhausted, were pleased with the results of the trip and recommended continuing the new summer training tradition with future teams.

The Harriers Cross-Country season will kick-off September 1, with the blue-white intra-squad meet at the Jr. Bills home course in Forest Park. This meet will determine the top seven varsity runners, expose freshman talent, and give the entire team an idea of where it stands for the season.

Because of the return of many seniors with varsity experience, the team heads into '88 with great expectations. Angelo Directo, Brian Lawler, Jamie Cummings, Tim Jones, John Sadlo, Todd Glass, Charlie Lottes, and Dave Blankenship give Coach Linhares the largest group of returning seniors he has ever had.

Other classes also have contributed a number of runners to the Harrier ranks.

The Harriers regular season will begin Sept. 6 against St. Mary's at Forest Park.

Dave Blankenship, Angelo Directo, and Greg Linhares