

RUNNERS COME UP SHORT.

Last Tuesday at Forest Park, the Varsity cross country team suffered a defeat to DuBourg in the season, to start the year on a losing note.

Despite the loss, there were some fine individual performances turned in for SLUH, most notably Sophomore Pete Palumbo and Junior Joe Kliethermes. At the gun, Palumbo took a slight lead and held it as the runners left sight. As the runners came back into sight, Palumbo and DuBourg's Dave Cheli were side - by - side, far in front of the pack. As they entered the final turn, both reached back for their last energy, but Palumbo found more and left Cheli in the dust, sprinting to a first place finish with an outstanding time of 17:53 over the treacherous 3.1 mile course. Kliethermes also gave a strong performance, finishing fifth with a time of 18:53.

Seniors John Ferrara, John Stelzer, and Matt Ebeling placed 8th, 9th, and 10th respectively.

Palumbo, who Coach Aylward termed "a state class runner", was pleased with his victory, but still hopes to improve. Speaking of the race, he said, "My only strategy was to pace their first runner and outsprint him at the end."

Aylward thinks the team will improve and do better in upcoming meets. The next competition, a quad-meet between SLUH, Ladue, Parkway West, and Normandy, will be held at Maryville College at 4:00.

---Jim Mimplitz

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