

# Swiftbills destroy Parkway, await sectionals

**Tom O'Brien**  
**Reporter**

The SLUH cross country team showed how strong they really are last Saturday at the district race. The race was held at Parkway Central, which has a very fast course with a downhill finish that favors runners with less strength in the final quarter mile. Competition in the race was much the same as the previous week's conference meet, only this week SLUH was competing with CBC and DeSmet for district, not conference, honors.

The results were much the same except for one main difference: this time SLUH defeated CBC and finished eight points behind the victor, DeSmet. Finally, the varsity began to realize their potential in a race that they came very close to winning.

SLUH had runners Tom O'Brien,

Ryan Hatch, and John Parr all finish in under 17 minutes in the race. The meet was a re-entry to the varsity for O'Brien (4th,16:48) who was running in his first race after a hip injury. For Hatch (7th,16:50), the race showed once again that he is one of the best last-mile runners in the area. Parr had a breakthrough race, running his first 5000 meters under 17 flat at 16:59, which was good enough for a finish of tenth and a medal as Parr claimed All-District honors.

But the race wasn't just great for SLUH's top three, it was great for the entire varsity. Patrick Leinauer (17:05), Dan Leinauer (17:10), Andy Skosky (17:39), and Jason Towers (18:06) all turned in strong varsity races and contributed to the team.

In the open run there were many excellent races by SLUH runners, but none more than Jason Roehr, who quali-

fied for a spot on the top seven with his speedy time of 17:47. Team Jawa Transport, an alumni team including Tim Chik, Pat Hamel, and Murphy O'Brien, was crushed by the Junior Bills in the open race. Murphy O'Brien, a member of the alumni corps, expressed his regret in the loss to current SLUH runners, but was impressed with the performance of Jason Roehr saying, "I taught him everything he knows, and I probably shouldn't take credit for it, but I will anyway."

Tomorrow SLUH XC takes on the best teams in their sectional, and with the addition of the previously-injured Dave Godar, SLUH is looking to break through a wall. As the Jr. Bills look to tomorrow's race and on to the state finals, they will have to decide just how badly they want to win, because without the desire there is no fire.

# Soccer falters in intra-conference matches

**Garry Holland**  
**Reporter**

Coming off a rousing 5-0 victory over Parkway South on senior night, the Soccerbills prepped for back-to-back conference showdowns. Last Thursday night, SLUH faced rival CBC in a much anticipated game. The Bills started strong and set the tone for the match with quality opportunities and numerous crosses.

In the second half, Tim Fetter put the team ahead with one of the highlight goals of the season. Running onto a bouncing ball in CBC's goal box, Fetter ripped a blast off the outside of his right foot directly into the upper corner of the net.

SLUH thrived on this momentum and stepped up the offensive pressure. Although the Jr. Bills couldn't add an insurance goal, a victory loomed until the final minutes, when the scrappy Cadet squad crawled back and managed to score one of their characteristic fluke goals. Chaos in the SLUH goal box resulted in an open Cadet, who managed to nudge a shot past Mark Valdez. The game ended without another goal, a 1-1 tie.

Even with the tie against CBC, SLUH had the claim to the MCC crown with a



Kevin McCarthy dekes an opponent silly in a 5-0 victory over Parkway South.

win over Chaminade. Playing on a picturesque Saturday afternoon at Chaminade, the team was confident in their chances.

Neither team could find the net due to stifling defense on both sides in the first half and most of the second half. With only minutes left in the game, however, both sides erupted with a flurry of scores. Chaminade converted a goal on a cross and moved ahead with a one-goal advantage.

SLUH's offense responded to the

pressure by heading to the net and crowding Chaminade's box. Dan Hartwig managed to get off a low shot which miraculously beat the keeper, to tie the game with only seconds left.

The game seemed destined for overtime except for a controversial decision in the closing seconds. In one last scoring attempt, a Chaminade striker received a long through ball from midfield, which he knocked into his stride with his forearm. Somehow, the referees missed the blatant handball. With no whistle, the Flyer walked in on Valdez, beating him to the far post. Despite appeals from both captains and Coaches Martel and Murray, the referees allowed the goal to stand. The Jr. Bills lost this heartbreaker 2-1.

The Bills suffered another uncharacteristic hiccup against Rosary Wednesday night, losing 2-0. The U. High couldn't find their scoring punch and consequently suffered its fifth defeat. Captain James Twellman was "very disappointed in the loss, but (feels) the team will bounce back strong against Francis Howell North."

SLUH prepares to dominate the stretch run in the playoffs, as district matches open next weekend.