

XC Bills continue to surprise

Tom O'Brien
Reporter

This past Friday, the SLUH cross country team left school during Activity Period and made their way down to the University of Missouri's campus for the 2000 Mizzou cross-country invitational meet. Things were tense before the race because the varsity runners knew that they had something to prove. This was so because all five of last years scoring runners (Ted Snodgrass, Nathan Tower, Murphy O'Brien, Tim Huegerich, and Dan Westlund) have graduated. So for the Varsity, who consisted of seniors Dave Godar, Ryan Hatch, Dan Leinauer, juniors Patrick Leinauer, Tom O'Brien, John Parr, and sophomore Peter Schaefer, it was important to do well. Many teams in Missouri are gunning for SLUH this year because the Jr. Billikens are the defending state champions.

On the junior varsity level Andy Skosky led the squad and turned in a fantastic time under 18:15 enabling him to get his varsity letter as a Junior in his first race of the season. Next for the JV team with a good time was Pat Kim with Chris Cruise and Drew Noblot. Other

junior varsity runners included Geoff Hadler, Kyle Gonnerman, Brian Gilmore, and Jason Towers. The JV team turned in a nice race with a fourth place finish out of thirty teams. Skosky's time also gives him the chance to run varsity tomorrow as SLUH hopes for big things from the varsity.

The Varsity race got underway at 4:30 after the conclusion of the girls JV race. In this highly contended race their were over thirty teams and a total of two hundred and twenty runners including the top contenders in the state. It had all the feeling of a state race at the beginning of the season.

When the race got under way team captain Dave Godar lit off for the front of the pack and stayed in front until he thought it comfortable to back off to his race pace. Godar was followed closely after the two mile mark by Tom O'Brien and Ryan Hatch who turned in a 5:25 last mile, a feat that rarely occurs. At the finish Godar was outkicked by O'Brien by a few seconds but he still held onto a great finish of 26th and a personal best time of 17:01. At the finish Hatch followed Godar by only one

second after his last mile heroics. John Parr was the next runner for SLUH with a time and finish of 17:29 and 44th and Patrick Lienaur turned in a huge race in his first varsity showing finishing 64 in 17:54. Dan Leinauer ran sick but still turned in a good time and finish of 17:37 and 53rd, coming through big for the team. SLUH surprised many a team with their fifth place finish at Mizzou scoring 169 points, only thirty points behind the strong team of DeSmet. Team captain Ryan Hatch said "Ok, well that was great, but now let's go to Shakespeare's."

The SLUH freshmen have won three consecutive meets. Under the leadership of Andrew Linhares, John Oliver and Joe Marincel the frosh have destroyed their competition thus far. The freshman team is comprised of over thirty members, one of the largest in the area.

The next race is tomorrow at Sioux Passage park in North County beginning at ten o'clock. The Paul Enke invitational is a race that SLUH hopes to do well in and show the cross-country teams around the area that this year "is not a rebuilding year, it's a reloading year," comments Linhares.

LAUGHLIN

(from 6) again." This year she will also serve as one of the moderators for the *Prep News*, a job that has helped her get involved and meet new people. She is impressed at how hard the *Prep News* staff works and of SLUH as a whole.

When asked about the atmosphere at SLUH she replied, "I've only been here for two weeks, but so far I really like it. The students are very energetic in and out of class." She added, "Teaching at SLUH is very different compared to my high school life and the past places that I have taught."

Her plans for the future are to continue her graduate work in American History, and work at becoming a more knowledgeable Global Studies teacher.

When asked of her colleagues in the social studies department she replied, "The

department has been wonderful—everyone is friendly, and they are all great teachers and scholars, which makes talking to them on the subject of history a pleasure."

SMITH

the SLUH environment; his own positive attitude has not gone unnoticed by the other faculty. Fellow Science Department teacher Tim O'Keefe commented, "He seems to really care about his students."

"I just hope that if I do just stay for one year," he commented, "that the students I was able to interact with remember me favorably and have good memories of spending time with me, and I'm sure I'll have plenty of good memories teaching them."

XC Box Scores

SLUH @ McCluer North Invit. 9/9			
SLUH	31	Ft. Zum. South	49
CBC	113	Parkway West	165
	<u>Time</u>	<u>Finish</u>	
A. Linhares		2	
	14:36		
J. Oliver		5	
	15:16		
J. Marincel		6	
	15:18		
SLUH vs. CBC, De Smet Tri-Meet			
SLUH	21	CBC	51
De Smet	96		
	<u>Time</u>	<u>Finish</u>	
J. Oliver		2	
	11:42		
J. Marincel		5	
	12:14		
P. DeBrecht		6	
	12:23		