

# Carter kickoff return sparks Footbills

**Shawn Furey**  
Reporter

With a bye the previous week and ample time to prepare for a very talented Francis Howell North team, the Bills looked forward to a serious challenge on a cold Friday night. Francis Howell North was up to the task.

The U. High kicked off the ball, and an interesting pattern began to dictate much of the first half. The Knights of Francis Howell North would have long, sustained drives in between the twenty yard lines, and then the boys cut off their oxygen. The Knights simply could not score in the red zone against the tough SLUH defense. Also, due to their apparent lack of a kicking game, Francis Howell continued to turn the ball over on downs to the Bills.

However, this gave the Jr. Bills bad field position throughout much of the first quarter. But while the offense tried to shake off rust from the bye week, the defense remained the rock.

It was only a matter of time before the offense required the stellar touch it had shown in the Vianney game. Sure enough, the offense began to get on track about halfway through the second quarter. Sophomore quarterback Dossie Jennings

punched it in to the end zone from three yards out to cap a steady offensive series.

"It was great to put that one in and get on the board first," said senior center Nick Schulte.



Chris Carter breaks away for 83 yards

The Knights answered right back, however, and at halftime the score was tied at seven. Coach Kornfeld said of the team's first half performance, "You never know how the guys will react coming off a bye week, but we regrouped at halftime and came back to play some really good football."

The momentum swing began on the very first Jr. Bill possession in the second half. Speedy junior Chris Carter returned the kickoff down the left sideline 83 yards before finally being wrestled down at the Francis Howell one yard line. Chris

Finney found the end zone several plays later to put the bills up 14-7.

The momentum continued as the Jr. Bills put up two more offensive touchdowns on short runs by Finney and captain Zach Schmitt. The scoring drives were helped along by Jennings passing for 136 yards, including four receptions by Schmitt for 66 yards. Senior captain Matt Sinclair, who had 40 yards receiving on three receptions, said, "Our third down conversions were really impressive and helped us to maintain drives and allowed our defense to have a well-deserved rest." The Jr. Bills were 7-9 on third down.

The defense guaranteed it would be a long ride home for the St. Charles squad when Finney scored his third touchdown of the game on a 54-yard interception return. That put the boys up 35-7 and secured the win. The Knights added a late insignificant touchdown to make the final score 35-14.

The Bills improved to 4-1 and are now looking ahead to a huge game against MCC rival DeSmet. "I have been looking forward to this game all year," said Finney. "Like a pack of wild wolves," added the always-enthusiastic Tony Sansone.

DeSmet fields a great team this year, but as always, these boys are up to the challenge. This Friday they will get to prove it again.

## Mercurybills in weekend invitational

**Tom O'Brien**  
Core Staff

In the Fred Lyons Metro invitational on October 5, the varsity cross country squad decided to take a different approach to the race than they had in past years. In the past, SLUH's varsity skipped the meet, which allowed them to run a larger number of hard workouts in their preparation for the conference meet.

However, because Coach Linhares wanted to strengthen the varsity's morale and racing ability, he decided to enter the varsity in the meet, fully intending to win.

The team was running without captain Dave Godar for the first time, and like Godar's gluteus maximus, they were hurting.

The team adopted a pack strategy for the first 1 to 1-1/2 miles. This strategy kept the team together by bringing up the slower starters and holding back the faster ones. The pack strategy worked well as the varsity came across as a pack at the one mile mark with a time of 5:26.

The effectiveness of the pack strategy was obvious at the finish, with the top five finishing very close together. Ryan Hatch led the pack (13th, 17:16) followed

by Tom O'Brien (17th, 17:21), Dan Leinauer (18th, 17:22), Patrick Leinauer (19th, 17:23), and John Parr (26th, 17:37). Also running for the varsity but not in the top five were Andy Skosky (36th, 17:52) and Kyle Gonnerman (39th, 17:56). Unfortunately, the varsity could not bring home the first place trophy because of a strong showing by Parkway South, but they did fare well with a second place finish.

The team's next race is the MCC Championship tomorrow at Chaminade. The varsity race begins at 10 a.m., so please come out and support your Jr. Bills.