

Soccerbills win two to improve to 5-3-1

Team can't score in 1-0 loss to DeSmet

Pat Steinway
Reporter

Even with the tragedy of last Tuesday's terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., the sports world had to go on, and that it did last weekend when the Jr. Bills soccer team played against a tough DeSmet team. The week before, the two teams had played to a 0-0 tie, with neither team getting many opportunities to win the game.

Friday night's game in no way compared to the previous DeSmet-SLUH game, as both teams had many chances to run up the score. However, only one goal was scored, and unfortunately that goal was by DeSmet's Mark Taylor. Taylor dribbled down the right side of the field with Ian Mulligan in close pursuit and slid a low shot by goalie Steve Howenstein. "It was a good goal," said backup goalie Mike Kutz.

After falling behind 1-0, the Jr. Bills had several great opportunities to tie the game. Along with a couple of corner kicks, SLUH forwards hit the post a few times, but they never could actually score.

After the tough loss, the team knew they would have to quickly focus on Saturday night's game and release their offensive frustration then.

The Soccerbills showed their offensive prowess against the helpless St. Dominic team by scoring a season-high four goals. Dan Hartwig netted two goals, Tom Winkler added a goal, and Kyle Banahan scored his first goal ever as a Jr. Bill.

Despite losing 4-1, the St. Dominic

soccer team made it quite an interesting game. In what seemed to be a purposeful act, a St. Dominic player took defender Kurt Fiehler down from behind, injuring his knee. After that, tempers started flaring

as junior Tim Baldes was given a yellow card for retaliating against the player who injured Fiehler.

Mulligan was later given a yellow card for what he said was pulling a St. Dominic player's shirt. After the game, Mulligan said, "Even though we won, I am

still upset about Kurt's knee. There was no need for that." Fiehler now sports a knee brace and is out indefinitely.

Ending the week at .500, the team looked to play an unknown Jefferson City
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A SLUH player heads the ball wide on a corner kick in Friday's game against DeSmet.

Hancock awaits Harrierbills on Saturday

Brian Gilmore
Reporter

Entering the Paul Enke Invitational at Sioux Passage last Saturday, the XC-Bills anxiously awaited their chance to run with the best in the area. However, they never got the chance to chase after the first place trophy they were looking for.

In the warm-up jog before the race, Pat Leinauer came up short on his ankle, and was held out of the meet to prevent any further injury. Having battled an illness all week, John Parr was unable to finish, momentarily blacking out near the halfway mark of the race.

Already without Tipper O'Brien and Andy Skosky, none of the four returning runners from last year's state team were left in the mix. However, the remaining varsity, led by new number one man Kyle Gonnerman, stepped up and prevented what could have been a disastrous day.

Paced by Gonnerman's 19th place

finish (17:45), SLUH's pack placed high enough to finish third out of a field that exceeded twenty varsity teams. DeSmet, at full strength, took a commanding victory, and Springfield Kickapoo narrowly edged out the Junior Bills for second.

When asked about being the number one runner on the team, Gonnerman simply said, "It feels pretty good. I was only trying to stick with Schaefer; I had no idea that I was going to be our top finisher."

Tipper O'Brien, the number one runner for much of last season, said, "Kyle should take some serious pride in being number one on this team. It's a really big deal, and he should enjoy the feeling and try to hold the position for as long as he can."

Rounding out the varsity at Sioux Passage were Peter Schaefer, Drew Noblot, sophomore Andrew Linhares, and Kevin Crean. These four finished within 30 seconds of each other, locking up a very respectable third place trophy.

Continuing their undefeated season, the JV team again overcame the absence of many key runners to defeat DeSmet and Parkway West and handily grab the win. Geoff Stewart, happy to be back running again in his first race after overcoming a bout with mono, finished in 4th place (18:46), with Matt Killiany, Kevin Mills, Boyd Gonnerman, and Sean McDonald rounding out the scoring five.

In the sophomore race, SLUH finished second behind a very talented group from Fort Zumwalt South. With Linhares up in the varsity race, the burden fell on Brennan Connor to lead the team. Connor performed beautifully on the tough course, running an 18:30, good enough for 6th place.

"Without Andrew, I knew I would have to step it up and set my own pace if we were to do well as a team," Connor said, "and I'm very happy that we were able to run so well. That course really is rough, though. My quads were burning
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Footbills defeat Chaminade in first MCC match

John Stewart
Reporter

Despite the terrorist attacks last Tuesday, the Jr. Bills' football season continued as Chaminade traveled to the stadium last Friday night for their MCC opener. Before the start of the game, the players, coaches, and fans participated in a prayer and a brief moment of silence to honor all of the people involved in the tragedies.

"It was nice to have such a good crowd on hand pay their respects to the men, women, and children who perished last Tuesday in New York and Washington D.C.," said head coach Gary Kornfeld.

Soon after, the fans extinguished their candles, and the players prepared to play in an important conference match up.

The early part of the game was reminiscent of the first two games of the season, in that the Footbills got off to a fast start.

The Jr. Bills wasted no time in getting a quick lead; on just the third play from scrimmage, quarterback Dossie Jennings, who completed 8 of 12 passes for 200 yards and 2 touchdowns on the night, hooked up with Tim Boyce on a ten-yard pattern across the middle. Boyce avoided tacklers as he burst towards the sideline. After outrunning the secondary, he flew down the field and into the end zone for an 80-yard touchdown. Brad Johnson's PAT was successful and gave the Jr. Bills an early 7-0 lead.

"Dossie hit me in stride and (Brad) Drakesmith made a huge block," said Boyce. "After that it was nothing but daylight."

The defense came to play as always against the Flyers. Linebackers Craig Schlappizzi and Joe Finney dominated Chaminade's running attack, combining for 26 tackles and 5 assists. Good interior line play by juniors Kevin Steffens, Phinney Troy, and Chris Price allowed the linebackers to run free to the ball carriers all night.

For the rest of the first quarter and the

better part of the second quarter, the U. High offense moved the ball fairly well, but penalties kept the unit from putting any more points on the board.

"We need to cut down on the penalties," said Kornfeld. "However, it is nice to be 3-0 and say that there is room for improvement."

With less than four minutes to go in the first half, the Jr. Bills put together a mistake-free drive and attempted to go up by two touchdowns. With 2:39 to go, Chris Finney took the handoff from Jennings and ran outside off the left tackle. As soon as he made it through the first line of defense, he ran unscathed into the end zone from 14 yards out to put the Jr. Bills up 13-0. The PAT by Johnson was no good, and the Footbills went into the locker room with a 13-point lead.

It was the Flyers' turn to receive as both teams came out to start the second

half. Needing to put some points on the board, Chaminade came out aggressively, but the SLUH defense remained strong. With excellent open field tackling, the Footbills were able to hold the Flyers on third down, and the Flyers were forced to punt. Chaminade's punter boomed a low kick to Mike Pettit, who



Mike Klevorn undercuts the Chaminade quarterback while Mike Pettit races to cover.

gave the Jr. Bills good field position with a 16-yard return.

Key catches by Brad Drakesmith and Joe Devine, who had 5 catches for 94 yards, propelled the offense down the field. The team has had good red-zone efficiency so far this season, and this game was no different. From four yards out, Jennings powered his way up the middle into the end zone, marking his third consecutive game with at least one rushing touchdown. Jennings hooked up

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like none other coming up Manmaker the second time."

With Sioux Passage out of the picture until Sectionals in late October, the team shifts its attention to this weekend's prestigious Hancock Invitational. It's the biggest invitational of the year, and is run on a championship-style course at Jefferson Barracks Park. Teams come from all around the state, and state powerhouse West Plains has a history of racing there.

The varsity race will be stacked with serious talent and large numbers, but the Harrierbills again have their eyes set on the top. With another week to heal their wounds, Parr and Leinauer are ready to go and the entire team is fired up to compete.

"We're going to have a lot of fun out

there," foretold Gonnerman.

When asked what he'll be doing in what will likely be his last race as a spectator, O'Brien said, "I'll be on a rampage out there, runnin' around cheering everybody on. I don't know what the meteorologists are calling for, but I'm forecasting the SLUH XC boys to be stirrin' up quite a storm!"

If your idea of cross country is a bunch of scantily clad runners racing around an empty park, you're only half right. The garb remains the same, but you'd be shocked at how many people turn out to SoCo's own Jefferson Barracks for this meet.

The JV race begins at 10:15, and the Varsity race kicks off at 12:00. For more, log on to the new home of SLUH XC, www.sluh.org/xc/xc.htm.