

Linharesbills look back on successful season

**Patrick Meek
Core Staff**

If there was one word that would describe the 2002 Jr. Bill's cross country team's season, it would be success.

"(The season) was outstanding. We were one of the strongest teams in (this school's) history, in terms of talents and in terms of times," reflected coach Jim Linhares.

The Jr. Bills started out the season strong under the leadership of captains Peter Schaefer, Drew Noblot, Kevin Crean, and Kyle Gonnerman, with wins at the First Capitol Invitational and the Mizzou Challenge.

The only bump along the way in the early part of the season for the Jr. Bills was the Hancock Invitational, in which the Jr. Bills received second behind powerhouse Liberty's amazing score of 28.



The season continued to roll with wins at the Jesuit Invitational, MCC Championship, district championship, and the sectional championship.

"This team was able to remain tenaciously competitive throughout the season," Linhares said.

Going into the state meet, the Harrierbills had hoped to upset either of the perennial powers, Liberty or West

Plains, or come away with a trophy. Unfortunately, the Jr. Bills were unable to do either, accomplishing the next best thing: fifth place. Although disappointed with the finish, the Harrierbills proved to Missouri that they are the best team in the St. Louis metro area.

"When the teams' only loss during the season was at Hancock and at state, that is pretty amazing," Linhares noted.

Unfortunately, many of the seniors were still disappointed with the results from state. At the state meet 25 runners are recognized, as well as the top four teams; the Jr. Bills had one runner in the top 25.

"It would have been nice to cheer for someone other than one guy, like we have done for the past three years," Crean said.

Even though the season was marked with a somewhat disappointing finish, none of the success that the Harrierbills had would have been possible if not for a strong group of leaders on this team. As with any team, it is obvious to point to the captains for leader
see **ANGRY NATION, 14**

Swimbills win tri-meet season opener

**Michael Leuchtmann
Reporter**

Thursday night, the Speedobills dove right into their season with a tri-meet against Clayton and Cape Notre Dame at the Center of Clayton. The team was able to put up their first mark under the "win" column by beating the both opponents with mainly JV swimmers. The final score was the Jr. Bills 135, Cape 128, and Clayton with 68. This victory is a reflection of the team's anticipated success for the season.

With the loss of both swim coaches Terry Murray and assistant Steve Schad, the team was forced to look for new leadership this year. The jobs went to Fritz Long, a history teacher at Rosati-Kain High School, and Jim Knapp, S.J. as his

assistant.

After many years of rebuilding, the team's fifth place finish last year was a major step. This year, Long's goal is to finish in the top three at the state meet. With tough competition from the Parkways, DeSmet, MICDS, and Chaminade, this will be no easy task, but SLUH has plenty of overflowing talent on its side.

The Swimbills have kept many of their star swimmers from last year and are looking to them for state repeats. Captains Tom Heafner, Winslow Tandler, Kevin McEvoy, and Nic Rottler will attempt to lead the team to number one with help from the speed of seniors Carl Thompson and Patrick Slaughter. Juniors Kurt Doll, Gabe Toennies, and Nathan Harris are anticipating repeat state appearances, and sophomores Tim Szewczyk and Tim Heafner will provide the young talent

between the lane lines for the varsity team this year.

Thursday's meet was an impressive showing, with many swimmers already qualifying for the final state meet and others easily beating last year's times, even with touchpad timing problems causing a major point loss for the team in the first race of the meet. Their success, though, was obviously directly related to the pre-meet cheer for "D-D-D-Defense." Tom Heafner, however, offered up a different reason, stating, "It's all about the lucky blue toe."

The meet came to a suspenseful finish with SLUH pulling ahead in the final relay race for the win. Those qualifying during the meet for state competition were junior Gabe Toennies in the 200 IM and freshman Wes Going in the 100 backstroke. SLUH also qualified in the 200
see **TRI-MEET, 14**

by Brian Fallon

Calendar

Dec. 6- Dec. 13

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

Schedule R
 Happy Saint Nicholas Day
 Sophomore Class Liturgy @ AP
 FCA Meeting @ AP
 Science Meeting @ AP
 Senior I.M. Basketball @ AP
 V HOC vs CBC @ Affton @ 9:45 pm
 V/B BB vs Pacific @ 5:30/7pm
 Trivia Contest @ 3pm
 C-blue BB vs Pacific @ 4pm
 V SW @ Lafayette @ 4pm
 Dauphin Players present one acts: *Does a Tiger Wear a Necktie & The Indian Wants the Bronx* @ 7:30pm
 Pizza Snack & Lil' Charlie's Pizza

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

V Rifle vs Quincy @ 10am
 Mothers Club Mass & Brunch @ 10 am
 Loyola Christmas Party @ 12-4pm
 Dauphin Players present one acts: *Does a Tiger Wear a Necktie & The Indian Wants the Bronx* @ 7:30pm
 V HOC vs St. Mary's @ Affton @ 7:30 pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

CISL Speech Meet
 Science Club hike
 Grandparents Mass @ 9am
 Pottery Sale @ 11:30-4pm
 Instead of War Rally @ 1:30-3:30pm
 SLUH Pro-Life Mass @ 4pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

Schedule R
 Reconciliation through Friday
 Freshman I.M. Basketball @ AP
 Pottery Sale @ 7:30am to 4pm
 Cardboard Castles @ 3pm
 V/B BB vs Kirkwood @ 4:30/6pm
 ACSA Mtg @ 7pm
 Fiesta & Belifino Pizza

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Schedule R
 Reconciliation through Friday
 Junior I.M. Basketball @ AP
 Pro-Life Club Meeting @ AP
 V/JV/C WR @ CBC @ 6pm
 C-White @ Priory @ 4pm
 Cheese Garlic Bread & Mostaccoli

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Schedule R
 Reconciliation through Friday
 Freshman Class Liturgy
 V BB @ Webster Classic through 12/14
 TBA
 TAP @ Grade Schools
 Bosco Sticks & Chicken Wraps

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

Schedule R
 Reconciliation through Friday
 XC Banquet @ 6:30pm
 B BB vs Ft. Zumwalt South @ 5:30pm
 C-Blue BB vs St. Mary's @ 4pm
 Pretzels & Crispitos

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

Schedule R
 Reconciliation
 Fine Arts Assembly @ AP
 V HOC vs Fox @ Affton @ 9:45 pm
 V/JV/C WR vs Ft. Zumwalt North @ 6pm
 V SW @ Marquette Relays TBA
 Seasoned Fries & Lil' Charlie's Pizza

ANGRY NATION

(from 10)

ship, and the team did just that with Schaefer, Noblot, Crean and Gonnerman.

"Leadership is always crucial. If you have a leadership vacuum it is going to lead to bad things. This year was pretty unique (as far as leadership). Every one (of the captains) had their own approach to leadership," said Linhares.

However, leadership was not just limited to these individuals. A few of the guys who stepped as leaders throughout the season were Matt Killiany and junior Andrew Linhares.

"Matt Killiany was a key leader by being a smart runner, a respectable guy, a guy who people enjoyed being around," Linhares said.

With this success comes pressure for the Jr. Bills in this upcoming season. If one were to look at the Jr. Bills' team for

next year on paper it would be a scary sight: five of the runners from this year's state team are graduating. However, the coaches are not in the least bit scared by this scenario.

"We will more than reload for next year. There are guys like Brennan Connor, Andrew Linhares, and John Oliver that we have who are not on anybody's screen," Linhares said.

TRI-MEET

(from 10)

medley relay and in the 200 and 400 freestyle relays. Also helping out the team in its victory were divers freshman Zach Berndsen, finishing second, and junior Colin Tyrrell, third.

When asked about the meet, Knapp said, "The relays really did what they needed to do."

PN Nightbeat**RACQUETBILLS WIN, GO 21-0**

The Rbills lengthened their win-streak to three games with a win over ParkwayCentral last night. With another shutout win, the Notallowalossbills are 21-0 in individual matches so far this season. After a strong showing this week, the bills are ready for the Gary Hendren Invitational at Concord Sports Complex Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m.

SINGLETBILLS DEFEAT WINDSOR

The Singletbills had five pins Thursday night as they defeated the Windsor Owls 60-15. Junior Nick Born, sophomores Chris Cahill, Chris Wagnitz, junior Ryan Stevenson, and junior Greg Leibach pinned their opponents.