

XC hits wall at MCC; JV, C tear it down

Henry Samson
Reporter

Five teams, 35 runners, and one race to settle the score among the area's Catholic schools. The varsity Metro Catholic Conference cross country race, held last Saturday at Chaminade, marked the starting line for the Harrierbills' postseason surge to state championship. Unfortunately, the Jr. Bills walked away bruised and worn with a third-place team finish.

Chaminade and DeSmet had strong teams, and they placed first and second, respectively. Nevertheless, the team still has hope for their postseason success, since

junior Alex Muntges did not finish in his usual position, and Andrew Linhares did not have the race he was looking for. Without its usual one-two punch, SLUH's

The rest of the varsity squad, led again by dynamo Danny Meier, who ran a 17:02 for 9th place overall, competed hard and left nothing out on the course. In an unusually competitive conference race, sophomore Ben Murphy-Baum finished two seconds behind Meier for 10th place with Chris Arb right on his heels in 12th place. These three runners have consistently been key varsity contributors for the team throughout the entire year and should be proud of what they have accomplished.

Rounding out the varsity team were sophomore

Mike Jonagan, Linhares, junior Joe Carlson, and Muntges. Although they see XC, 12



Freshman Pete Heagney takes the lead at the finish of the freshman race Saturday.

varsity could only finish third, unlike its usual history of conference championships.

Football beats Spartans, loses to Bloomington

Greg Fox
Core Staff

As football district contests begin across the Metro area this week, the Jr. Bills head in after splitting their last two games, a 21-14 victory over DeSmet on Oct. 10 and a 27-20 loss to Bloomington (Ill.) this past Friday that dropped their overall record to 5-2.

DeSmet, which brought an 0-5 record in against the Jr. Bills, started the game off on the right foot, as they ran the ball 65 yards for a touchdown less than four minutes into the game. Though their rivals put them on their heels early, the Comebackbills answered minutes later, converting a Matt Maisak fumble recovery into six points. The Jr. Bills marched across midfield, and junior quarterback Matt Behr completed a 24-yard strike to junior receiver Ryan Morgan. Tim Simon failed to convert on the extra point, which left the score 7-6 with just under 11 minutes remaining in the first half.

The suffocating Jr. Bills defense stopped to a DeSmet drive that began at

their own 10 and forced a quick punt. When DeSmet attempted to punt, the ball sailed past the punter and out the end zone. The Jr. Bills walked away with a safety and two points, and the first half ended with SLUH on top, 8-7.

Both offenses stagnated for much of the third quarter, and at the beginning of the fourth quarter, Behr was back to punt from the SLUH 25. The ball never touched his foot, however, because he completed a 52-yard pass to David Sonderman on the fake punt. The Jr. Bills drove into the Spartan red zone, and from six yards out, Behr ran the ball for a touchdown. Simon added the extra point to make the score 15-7.

After a possession by each team that yielded no points, defensive back Greg Eschelbach intercepted a pass with 3:50 left and ran the ball down to the one-yard line. The return, however, was not entirely joyous, as Maisak was injured, and taken off the field by paramedics. According to captain Jeff Howenstein, Maisak injured his neck. He will undergo a check-up today, and based on the results

of the check-up, he may play next Thursday against CBC. Maisak left the game with two fumble recoveries.

Behr ran in the ball from the one-yard line for his second rushing touchdown of the night, but Simon again did not convert the extra point, leaving the score at 21-7. The Jr. Bills' minds, however, seemed to follow their fallen comrade Maisak, as DeSmet drove the length of the field on their next possession and scored to pull dangerously close to being able to tie the game with just one minute remaining. Fortunately, the Jr. Bills recovered the onside kick and ended the game with a 21-14 victory.

Last Friday, the Refusetolosebills rode five straight wins into the SLUH stadium to take on a cross-river foe, the Bloomington Purple Raiders. Bloomington, an Illinois powerhouse, brought in a powerful running game. They opened the scoring with a 48-yard touchdown reception less than eight minutes into the game. Their defense pinned down the Jr. Bills, and the first quarter ended

see O-LINE, 8

XC

(from 6)

were disappointed with Saturday's results, the varsity team now has its sights set only on district.

The JV team once again asserted its dominance in memorable fashion. Hoping to sweep the field, and score a perfect 15 points with a 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 finish, the JV team was eager to control the race. At one point in the race, between the first and second miles, a Chaminade fan was heard to have said, "Geez, there are 12 of them up front!" after seeing an endless line of SLUH runners leading the race.

Although a DeSmet runner eventually finished fifth, causing the Jr. Bills to score 16 points, the relentless stream of SLUH runners in the front was a sight to behold. John Oliver and Dan Flanagan turned in standout performances. Oliver was the individual champion, finishing at 17:32, while Flanagan kicked it home right behind him for second place with a time of 17:41. Rounding out the first five were junior Matt Dirnbeck, and seniors Joe Welling, and Dan Foldes. For another week the seniors came through as tough contributors to the JV team's success.

Shortly thereafter, the freshman team set out on a quest to establish themselves as the strongest team in the MCC against an especially talented DeSmet squad. After the first two runners from SLUH and DeSmet finished, the teams were deadlocked at a 5-5. Realizing that they had to step up to win (mainly because just about every team member was screaming at them), Sam Emery, Matt Lawder, and Andrew Vatterott each had breakthrough races. Their determination, especially in mile three, propelled the team to victory.

Tomorrow morning will be the first of the Big Three races for the Jr. Bills. The district meet will be held at Parkway Central and promises to be an exciting day. Many are thinking of setting personal records on the fast course and of proving SLUH to be a force in the cross country world. So please, especially if you hail from West County, come and support your classmates.

YELLOW CARDS

(from 6)

Germanese's decisive goal was futile. Marquette managed one goal, but they could not match the intensity of the Jr. Bills, who scored two more goals by the game's end, one by Malcolm in the midfield, to truly crush the hopes of Marquette.

The game ended with approval from the Jr. Bill players. "We were more intense tonight," Reagan said, "We took it to them."

In between those games, SLUH crushed Hazelwood West 10-0, narrowly beat DeSmet 1-0, and dominated Parkway South 5-0 and Francis Howell North 6-0, all in preparation for their monster matchup against CBC Wednesday night, a battle pitting the national number 12 versus the national number 17.

A battle for the ages it was, and on Wednesday night, all of SLUH, even senior Colin Dowling, who was attending his first ever soccer game, assembled to watch the battle of the titans. The first half started out slowly, with a back and forth midfield battle and very little in the way of challenges for the goalkeepers. It seemed

BYRD

(from 2)

never fully recover her speech or the use of her right side. Doctors took her off many of the medications used after her surgery, and "now she's just on her normal medication for blood pressure," added Byrd.

In her fragile health, Sharon Byrd still needs to be cared for by someone during the day. Right now, with her hospital treatments ended, Byrd commented, "We are in the process of finding a person to do adult day treatment at our home." If they cannot find home treatment, they are looking into a day care center for Sharon Byrd to continue her recovery.

Doctors remind Byrd that the recovery is very long and slow process, and takes patience. Byrd said, "There are small improvements, and we must take it day by day." The SLUH community will keep Sharon and Dee Byrd in their prayers throughout her recovery.

it would be a stagnant half until stoppage time, when a second effort cross reached the box, and Scott Brown headed the ball off the post out of bounds. It was the closest SLUH would get to a goal all game. The half ended in a tie.

The second half continued to be as grueling as the first, with no team emerging with dominating play or good scoring chances. A give-and-go from Miller to Mueller set up a good shot that went wide for the Jr. Bills. Regular time ended in a tie, and overtime loomed above the players' heads.

Shortly into the second overtime, with CBC sending a ball long down the pitch and their players chasing it with lightning quickness, goalie Ben Brockland had to give up his goal line to chase the ball out of bounds, and just minutes later he made a save on a high shot that kept the Jr. Bills alive. With little freshness in the overtime period, the Jr. Bills had no significant scoring chances, but with solid defense, the game of national powerhouses ended the way their first battle did, in a tie.

One nationally-ranked team down and one to go this weekend, as the Soccerbills take on number 25 Chaminade at 2 p.m. in the stadium.

NHS Inductees**Seniors:**

Christopher Baricevic	Jeffrey Howenstein
Edward Bulliner	Patrick Kattner
David Burghoff	Nicholas Konczak
Andrew Burr	Thomas Martin
Brandon Bushong	Phillip Matthews
Christopher Daus	Gordon Schweitzer
Thomas Economon	David Sonderman
Timothy Elliot	Kevin Vincent
Thomas Fontana	Jonathan Yoon
Paul Guest	Adam Zghall
Nathan Harris	

Juniors:

Thomas Cambell	Ryan Johnson
Joseph Carlson	Thomas Junker
Harold Carter, II	Brendan Klein
Luke Dang	James Krings
Joseph Eggleston	Stephen Lestmann
Tyler Faust	Joseph Lombardo
Shane Fogerty	Anthony Molina
Bryan Glaenger	Brian Nienhaus
Robert Goeltz, III	Kevin O'Neill
Michael Granger	Daniel Polokonis
Timothy Heafner	Andrew Schaeperkoetter
Joseph Hejlek	David Schwarz
Matthew Herzberg, II	Dustin Sump
Michael Hill	Charles Ullmann
Philip Hof	Shaun Whalen
Matthew Ikemeier	William Winfrey
Edward Jaeger	Kevin Witbrodt