

# Football pitches shutout to Chaminade, 10-0

**Greg Fox**  
Core Staff

The Jr. Bills brought intensity and tough defense into their game against Chaminade last Friday night. Chaminade brought in a powerful running game and a cohort of fans with ThunderStix. The game pitted Chaminade's high-flying offense against the Jr. Bills' defense, which was coming off the heels of a shutout against Parkway West. The SLUH defense continued their tough play, blanking Chaminade en route to a 10-0 victory in SLUH's first Metro Catholic Conference game.

The special teams began the game with fireworks, led by sophomore Paul Chaney. Chaney took the opening kickoff at the 5-yard line and dashed up the field, where he disappeared into a group of Red Devils and Jr. Bills trying to clear his way. Chaney reappeared a few seconds later, sprinting up the line and into the end zone for a 95-yard touchdown return. Tim Simon added the extra point, making the score 7-0 just thirteen seconds into the game.

Commenting on the return, head coach Gary Kornfeld said, "It's gigantic to have something like that occur at the start of a football game. It really takes a lot of steam out of the other team... it takes a lot of thunder away from them." Kornfeld stressed the fact that Chaney had great blocks on the return, especially a good block from Joe Cherre. "There were a lot of key things done on that return to make (Chaney) go the distance," Kornfeld said.

Chaminade took the ball on their own 20-yard line and began to hand the ball off to their speedy running back. After a series of gains, the Brickwallbills put together a string of stops and forced the Red Devils to punt. This would be a recurring theme of the game, with the defense adapting to Chaminade's tough running game to halt a drive in its tracks.

Linebackers and captains Jeff Howenstein and John Block led the defense, with nine and eight tackles, respectively, and each also had four assists. In addition, Howenstein recovered a fumble, his second in as many games, and blocked a punt.

Late in the first quarter, the Jr. Bills were driving deep in Chaminade territory behind a strong running game. Junior quarterback Matt Behr took a shot at the end zone from the Chaminade 17, but his pass was intercepted at the goal line.

The interception was Behr's first after attempting 41 passes. So far this season, Behr has amassed 262 passing yards in just 18 completions, good for almost 15 yards per completion.

The remainder of the first half consisted mostly of Chaminade and SLUH's trading possessions, with no points coming out of any drives. Junior receiver Curtis Hoette had a 34-yard reception, and sophomore running back Stephen Simmons gained 60 yards in the first half, including one 29-yard gain after it looked as if he would gain few, if any, yards on the play.

Simmons would go on to gain 97 yards behind a line whose play on the run was, according to captain Jim Croghan, "pretty bad."

"On the run game, we just couldn't establish our line," commented Croghan.

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## Concordebills tackle Sioux, primed for Hancock

**Henry Samson**  
Reporter

It haunts runners in their dreams. It looms in the distance, humbling even the best of runners. It has even been known to make people cry. Manmaker, the infamous hill at Sioux Passage, was waiting for the Jr. Bills last Saturday, and they were not fazed at all. SLUH came away from the Paul Enke Invitational with a fifth-place team finish in the varsity race and a first-place team finish from the JV and B teams.

Sioux Passage, nestled so deeply in north county that only junior Matt Dirnbeck could call it home, was the site of the premier cross country race in the area on Saturday.

The varsity team differed somewhat from the usual varsity squad, because of the decision by the coaches to hold out the top four runners in order to rest for

tomorrow's race. It was also decided that the first three runners for SLUH in varsity would race varsity this week at Hancock.

Chris Arb, John Oliver, and junior Joe Carlson each had a career day by earning their personal best times and in the process retained their spots on the varsity as well as medalling.

Carlson finished first for SLUH with a time of 17:15.

Arb smashed his previous personal best by about 30 seconds, ensuring that he will race next week against Hancock. An excited Arb said, "I like racing at Hancock obviously because it's in the heart of SoCo, where I holla from." Arb added, "But seriously, it's a big meet with lots of good teams and is always exciting."

The rest of the team ran strong on the particularly challenging course, capturing fifth place overall. Dirnbeck, racing varsity for the first time, smiled the whole way up Manmaker, a rare sight since most

runners have looks of anguish on their faces by that point in the race.

Of the meet, head coach Jim Linhares told the team in its meeting on Monday, "People were coming up to me and consoling me on the fifth place finish." Flashing a quick smile, he added, "But that's okay. They have no idea what we have in store for Saturday's race."

The JV dominated its competition as usual, winning by 78 points over DeSmet, a huge margin of victory. Of the many great performances, Joe Welling stood out, flying into a second place finish, in 18:10 to help lead the team to a 29 to 107 win over DeSmet. Nick Speiser, Dan Foldes, and Paul Nappier were close behind, cementing a solid team day led by the core of seniors.

After the JV race, the sophomores beat Fort Zumwalt South in the B race by 24 points. Two racers in particular shone.

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## UNDER ARMOUR

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Kornfeld, however, thought the line “did a nice job,” despite the fact that Chaminade’s defense was “better than what (the team) faced the week before.”

After Chaminade’s running back rushed for 117 yards in the first half, the defense made a change. The linebackers had been playing too far off the line of scrimmage, and as a result, couldn’t react to the run as quickly as was desirable. After moving the linebackers forward, the defense was able to “step up on the run and make plays,” according to Howenstein.

“We had to tighten up; we were too far back. It was getting up and shutting the hole down before the hole had a chance to open” that made the difference, Kornfeld said.

In a complete U-turn, the defense allowed Chaminade’s running back only 40 yards in the second half, a half in which they completely shut down the Chaminade offense. The Red Devils fumbled four times on the night, a stat Howenstein attributed to the defense’s intensity.

After Howenstein blocked a punt two minutes into the fourth quarter, Simon kicked a 27-yard field goal, his sixth of the year, which made the score 10-0.

Following a Chaminade fumble, Behr punted the ball away, which proceeded to bounce off the hands of the Chaminade returner as though they were slicked with

oil. SLUH recovered the fumble and started to take time off the clock.

Facing fourth and long at the Chaminade 22, Kornfeld elected to try for the first down on the grounds that, even after a SLUH field goal (the team was well within Simon’s range), Chaminade still could have won the game on two possessions. The attempt failed and Chaminade took over on their own 22.

Chaminade coughed up the ball again, after defensive end Matt Maisak forced a fumble and Howenstein recovered. Kornfeld then put the offense temporarily in the hands of sophomore fullback Chris Hoffman, who bulldozed through Chaminade’s defense before fumbling the ball. However, Chaminade failed to do anything significant on their final possession.

Kornfeld summed up the defense’s play, saying, “Early in the game, we had a hard time with (the run). We had to shut that off. I was very pleased with the way we played the second half.”

This is the defense’s second shutout in a row, lowering its points allowed average to less than nine points per game. The team’s turnover ratio now stands at 10-4 takeaways to giveaways.

Croghan commented, “If it weren’t for the defense, we wouldn’t have been in this game.”

Next up for the Jr. Bills are the Gateway Tech Jaguars, who come in with a 2-

1 record and have also shut out their last two opponents.

Kornfeld called Gateway a “terrific team” that has a good running game and defense. They play a 4-3 Cover 1 or 5-3 defense and according to Kornfeld are “a good ballclub that’s looking to rebound” from a poor last year.

Kornfeld thanked the crowd from last Friday’s game, saying, “We had a great, great crowd. It really means a lot to our club and our kids.”

## SPIKES

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Drew Kaiser finished 4th in the race, beaten only by teammate sophomore Mike Jonagan, who took the individual title with an unbelievable time of 17:45. Jonagan’s time would have placed him fourth on the varsity squad at the meet.



Chris Arb leads SLUH in warm-up minutes before the varsity race last Saturday.

Tomorrow will be the Hancock Invitational at Jefferson Barracks. Usually this meet is seen as the mid-year precursor for state. Almost a thousand runners will be racing there on Saturday, with the varsity Jr. Bills racing at 11:15 a.m. The JV race will follow and promises to be an unprecedented sight throughout the cross country world. About 80 SLUH runners will be racing in the JV race and competing for state bragging rights about who has the deepest team.

Assistant coach Tim Chik thinks the fact that “someone from another team could be passed by 15 SLUH runners at once” will be awesome. Please come on Saturday and support your classmates.

## SHIRTLESS

(from 7)

to deal with MICDS.

“We just wanted to play them straight up,” said Witbrodt after the game.

Captain Kevin Vincent thought that the game showed that the team needed to work on its defense and man-up offense.

The Polobills have increased the intensity of their conditioning to build up their endurance. “Swimming in the Rec-Plex killed us,” commented Witbrodt.

On Tuesday, the Polobills bounced back from their loss to MICDS and de-

feated Parkway Central 16-4. Heafner once again led the game with five goals, followed by an impressive four goals from Witbrodt. Junior Adam Trafton and Andy Withington also had an impressive game, each scoring two goals.

This Friday, the Jr. Bills will face the up-and-coming Lindbergh water polo team at Forest Park Community College. The 5:00 p.m. game will prove to be one of the most exciting games of the year, and all students are encouraged to come cheer the Polobills on to victory.