

Tychobills eliminated in OT on two-point sweep

Adam Cruz
Reporter

Fox running back Levi Terrell took the pitch from the quarterback and sprinted right. The Jr. Bill defense fought through a wall of blockers, knowing the season depended on stopping this overtime two-point conversion try. Terrell was met by a tangle of linemen a yard shy of the goal line. He bounced through the pile and fell in the vicinity of the goal line. The try was good, and SLUH (7-4) was knocked out of the playoffs, 36-35.

Last Friday's sectional matchup started out perfectly for the Jr. Bills, and the many who predicted a blowout seemed justified. The Warriors were shocked to see number 12 behind center, as junior quarterback Michael Riddering made his first varsity start. He was used little in the first drive, as senior All-American running back Ronnie Wingo, who finished with 151 rushing yards, took control. Wingo began and ended the drive, his 18-yard run putting SLUH up 7-0.

But the potent Warriors rushing offense,

led by backs Terrell (181 yards) and Micah Marino (6.3 yards a carry), set the tone of the game with their next drive, much to the dismay of senior linebacker Morgan "Jr. Billy Goat" Cole (18 tackles) and the rest of the Jr. Bill defense.

Eating up nearly seven minutes of clock, Fox drove deep into SLUH territory. On fourth and seven, with no trust in their kicking game, the Fox offense threw a rare pass and was successful. The 7-yard touchdown strike tied the game at seven as the first quarter ended.

Unaffected, the SLUH offense drove again. The Firstcareertouchdownbills regained the lead as Riddering, who completed his first passes on the drive, scored on a

one-yard quarterback sneak.

Again, Fox responded and ran triumphantly down the field. With 4:50 left in the quarter, Terrell pounded it in to tie the game at 14.



Senior Ronnie Wingo outfoxes a defender in his last game. Wingo holds school records for rushing yards (4,499) and TDs (48).

Although both teams gained plenty of yards with the remaining time, a goal line stand by SLUH kept the score 14-14 heading into the half.

"Momentum was about even at half," said All-Conference guard Matt Storey. "The second half we just let blown calls, a few turnovers, and their run game beat us."

The beginning of the third quarter belonged to the Warriors. Countering SLUH's halftime adjustments, Fox, featuring their

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Cross country second in state

Brandon Thornberry
Reporter

The St. Louis University High School cross country team ran its final race of season competition this past Saturday at the Class 4 State Championships held in Jefferson City.

"We went into this race expecting to win," said head coach Jim Linhares. "We knew Lee's Summit West was going to be a difficult team to beat."

SLUH's top varsity squad left for Jefferson City after second period on Friday. With enough time to train on the course before heading back to the hotel, the Jr. Bills mapped out their strategy for the next morning's race.

The morning brought temperatures in the thirties with wind chills easily dropping into the twenties. Despite poor conditions for racing, the SLUH top seven were determined to remain strong, while other teams backed down from the cold.

At 10:45 a.m. the Class 4 boys race was off and SLUH was out to defend last year's first-place title. Into the first mile,

senior Austin Cookson led the team, coming through at 5:04, followed by junior Caleb Ford and senior John Clohisy at 5:05. Senior Cliff David and David Kuciejczyk-Kernan followed closely behind in at 5:07 and 5:10, respectively. Juniors Emmett Cookson and Bill Gabler fought their way through the crowded field as they flew through the mile in 5:18 and 5:22, respectively. At the end of the mile, SLUH had four athletes in all-state position and had a team score of 64. Lee's Summit West also had four runners in all-state position with a team score of 62.

The SLUH athletes fought hard into the second mile. With the top pack in at a time of 10:09, A. Cookson fought hard to hold

his thirteenth-place position as he clocked in a 10:24 two mile split. Ford and Clohisy worked together to hold nineteenth and twentieth places, respectively, while coming through the two mile in 10:28. David, currently in twenty-seventh, fought hard to stay with twenty-fifth place, the all-state cut off for athletes, as he ran through in 10:33.

With the cold and wind eating away at the athletes, Kuciejczyk-Kernan, E. Cookson, and Gabler fought hard to work up to Lee's Summit West's fifth man, coming through the two mile in times of 10:49, 10:52, and 11:00, respectively. Lee's Summit West had a twenty-nine point lead over second place SLUH at the two mile mark. Third

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Junior Caleb Ford (654) points the way for John Clohisy (650).

XC runs into Neo-Nazi rally at capitol building

Peter Mackowiak
Sports Editor

Last Saturday, 68,349 people swarmed Columbia, Mo. to watch the University of Missouri football team beat Kansas State, 41-14. Earlier that day, the St. Louis U. High cross country team competed in the State meet in nearby Jefferson City.

The team traditionally lunches at Columbia's Shakespeare's pizza after the State meet. However, anticipating a massive wait in the popular restaurant, the St. Louis U. High cross country team, coaches, and parents opted instead to try to book Arri's, a pizza place across the street from the state capitol building in Jefferson City. The group of about 60 had no trouble reserving tables for around 1:30 p.m. Upon arriving, they saw that members of the National Socialist Movement (Neo-Nazis) were staging a rally across the street on the capitol steps.

"We'd heard rumors that (the rally) was going to happen, and maybe that's why we were able to get a table as quickly as we did," said assistant coach Joe Porter. "But that didn't deter us from enjoying pizza."

Neo-Nazism is the controversial and unpopular movement to revive Nazism, an

ideology founded by Adolf Hitler on racist principles. The members had originally planned to march and rally in Columbia but were turned away because the city didn't have the resources to manage both the football crowd and a rally. Instead, they exercised their First Amendment rights by marching to the steps of the capitol and setting up a podium from which 40 or so black-jacketed members took turns spouting racist rhetoric.

The SLUH crowd heard noise coming from the capital and, upon finishing their pizza, crossed the street to join protestors at the police barricade that blocked off the rally.

"The protestors and police outnumbered the rally participants by far," said Porter. "They were speaking to an audience that really consisted of no one."

The runners who approached the barricade joined the protestors in countering the rally with their own cheers.

"The things (the Neo-Nazis) were saying really bothered me," said junior Will Linhares. Linhares and fellow junior Tony Minnick said their verbal protests drew a negative response from one Neo-Nazi speaker.

SLUH head coach Jim Linhares and

Porter said although they realized that the rally is a controversial event, they encouraged students to see the rally in person and draw their own educated conclusions.

"It was a good learning experience for the students," said Porter. "We do kind of live in a bubble, and there are those people out there."

Pictures of SLUH runners wearing SLUH apparel appeared in the next day's *Jefferson City News Tribune*, and SLUH received an email from a concerned bystander complaining about the team's presence near the rally. Linhares met with SLUH's administration, and they decided that Linhares would respond to the email.

"I wrote a lengthy letter first, thanking the person for caring about the issue. Second, I explained what happened – that our guys were not participating in the rally. Third, I said I think seeing and responding to this rally is a good thing ... seeing these things firsthand is sobering, but it also gives them the opportunity to give witness to others."

A group of SLUH runners, including the varsity top seven, will travel to Terre Haute, Ind. for the Nike Cross Nationals Regional Meet tomorrow. Chances are they will not run into a Neo-Nazi rally.

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place Kickapoo trailed second place SLUH by seventy-five points.

With the dreaded "Firehouse Hill" in the third mile of the race, SLUH fought hard into the chute desperately trying to catch Lee's Summit West. Despite SLUH's effort, Lee's Summit West captured the State Title with a new state record of fifty-three points. SLUH came in second with eighty-seven points, twenty-six points better than the team's last year state champion score. Third-place Liberty was a distant third with 140 points.

Cookson was SLUH's top runner on the day with a time of 16:21, capturing ninth place. Ford captured thirteenth place in a time of 16:23 and Clohisy followed close behind with a 16:30 capturing eighteenth place. A. Cookson, Ford, and Clohisy all received All-State honors. David was SLUH's fourth man in a strong time of 16:54 capturing twenty-ninth place. Rounding out SLUH's top five was Kuciejczyk-Kernan with a time

of 17:18, taking fifty-fifth place. Gabler and E. Cookson struggled through the final mile but managed to finish with strong times of 17:23 and 17:25, capturing sixty-fourth and sixty-ninth, respectively.

"Lee's Summit West was the better team that day," said Linhares. "We had a good day, not perfect, but a very successful day."

Despite the second-place finish, the 2008 SLUH varsity cross-country team managed to set a few school records, including lowest team score. Clohisy became the first SLUH runner to receive All-State honors three years in a row.

"It really is amazing what John was able to accomplish," said Linhares. "After having to resort to purely cross training all season due to injury, he was still able to receive All-State honors and help bring this team a second-place finish."

Linhares also was extremely pleased with A. Cookson's top-ten finish and Ford's

thirteenth-place finish.

"Out of the athletes returning to next year's state meet, Caleb is the number four runner in the state," said Linhares.

Although SLUH cross country competition came to an exciting end last Saturday, the top seven athletes accompanied by other runners will continue competing at the Regional Meet in Terre Haute, Indiana.

"The top seven and other athletes wanted to form a running club to compete in the Nike Cross Nationals Regional Meet this Saturday," said Linhares. "Ben Rosario '98, will be the club's coach and will accompany them to the Regional Meet."

Linhares said he will travel up to Indiana this Saturday to cheer the team on.

"The Midwest Regional is extremely talented," said Linhares. "The guys are hoping for a third-place finish which will more than likely earn them a chance at the National Meet in Portland, Oregon."