

Kornfeldbills take first game in districts

Kevin McBrearty
Reporter

The St. Louis U. High football team split their last two games with a 1-1 record. After losing to MCC rival CBC, the Jr. Bills bounced back with a big win over Lindbergh in their first district game of the year.

The Jr. Bills jumped out to a lead in district play with a victory over Lindbergh Friday night.

Both teams' offenses started out slowly, going scoreless in the first half. The first threat to score came early in the second quarter when a Lindbergh pass was deflected by a SLUH defender into the hands of a Lindbergh receiver. The receiver caught the ball and ran towards daylight, but five yards from paydirt, linebacker David Eagleton swallowed up the receiver and ripped the ball from his hands. Linebacker Ryan McDonald was right there waiting and dove on the ball to complete the turnover and end Lindbergh's chance to score.

The Jr. Bills' only threat to score in the first half came in the final seconds on a 42-yard field goal attempt from kicker Max Wheeler, but it was wide left and the Jr. Bills would have to wait until the second half for a chance to get on the board.

The Jr. Bills came out ready to play in the second half. In the opening drive of the

half, Swanston completed a screen pass to Wingo which he took 80 yards to the one-yard line. On the next play, Swanston gave the Jr. Bills the lead with a touchdown on a quarterback keeper, 7-0.

The Flyers got on the board with a 7-yard TD run midway through the third quarter after a fumble by the Jr. Bills gave them the ball.

The Touchdownbills responded on their next drive by again going to the air. A fade pass to receiver Geno McNeil from Swanston for 26 yards brought them within range, then a two-yard pass to the corner of the end zone from Swanston to junior Eric Devlin gave them the score. After the extra point, the Jr. Bills led 14-7 entering the fourth quarter.

After a three and out by the Flyers and a short punt, the Jr. Bills took over in Lindbergh territory. The U. High offense failed to score

a touchdown and so they settled for a field goal attempt. Wheeler was dead on from 42 yards out and the Jr. Bills padded their lead early in the fourth quarter, 17-7.

With just under three minutes left to play and Lindbergh with the ball threatening to score, defensive back Kaelan Mayfield came up with a huge interception on a would be first down for the Flyers, taking it to the house for 63 yards and 6 points. The touchdown all but sealed Lindbergh's fate.

Lindbergh would get the ball again late, but with not enough time and the SLUH defense looming, they were unable to tack up any more points, giving the Jr. Billikens their first division win of the year, 24-7.

Offensive leaders were Wingo with 103 yards rushing on 32 carries and 80 yards
see 1-0, 8



Senior Geno McNeil (25) makes a spectacular catch against Lindbergh last Friday.

XC wins first postseason race

John Clohisy
Reporter

The XC Bills took off in the District 3 meet last Saturday, Oct. 21 at Parkway Central, starting the first of three postseason races in the cross country season. Despite a last-minute injury, a false start, and a course that was a few meters longer than the norm, the team managed to win the meet over second place DeSmet by 32 points.

Senior Matt Lawder battled a front-runner from DeSmet all the way through the final kick to claim the victory in 16:08.

When asked about his pre-race plans, Lawder recalled, "I wanted to go after the win, and after conference I knew it wouldn't be easy with me, Albes (runner from DeSmet), and Gorman (of Chaminade) finishing so

close. My plan was to put on some moves in the middle of the race and go from there."

When asked about the race itself, Lawder commented, "There were a few surprises, like the false start. ... I didn't want to go out too fast because I knew some of the other racers would sprint out in the beginning. We came through the mile in 5:04 in good shape. ... Coming out of the woods, Albes (DeSmet) put on a move and had about ten meters on me, and I was a little worried because I thought he might coast to an easy finish. I surged and we were neck and neck going down the hill, each gaining a foot or two then falling back, and I gapped him with about three hundred (meters) to go."

Sophomore John Clohisy finished second for SLUH and fifth overall in 16:52. Seniors Dan Viox and Nathan Banet added to their collection of consistent solid races

as they moved through the field to finish in seventh and ninth, in 17:05 and 17:11 respectively. Junior Dan Warner had a breakthrough performance in his first varsity race ever, finishing in twelfth in 17:24. Sophomore David Kuciejczyk-Kernan finished strong to claim thirteenth place, rounding out the shortened varsity squad.

The JV and C teams battled the frigid weather this past Wednesday in their final meet, the Findley Invitational at Forest Park. The teams left the meet with two individual champions, freshman Tyler Jennings (C), and sophomore Austin Cookson (JV), and two team victories.

Come cheer on the varsity this Saturday in the sectional meet as they continue in their hunt for the state title. The race is at Central Fields in Forest Park, and the gun goes off at 10:00 a.m.