

Cross Country takes First Capitol

BY GREG FISTER
REPORTER

At McNair Park, the St. Louis U. High varsity and junior varsity teams' hard work paid off last Friday. They walked away from their first race of the season, the First Capitol Invitational, with championships in the varsity and JV divisions, a first-place win in the class 4 division for senior Tim Rackers, and four other top-10 finishes.

Most runners agreed that the overall times were a bit slower on Friday's race due to tall grass and gusty winds, but despite these factors and the fact that this was the team's 2010 season debut race, the team did very well.

"With a win, you have to be happy," said head coach Joe Porter, though he remarked that there is still room for improvement. He noted SLUH's early success over Francis Howell by 50 points was significant to the team's prospects later in the season.

"We've made some mistakes, but we've learned from them, and now we are ready (for the rest of the season)," said Porter.

Crossing the line in first place (fifth overall) in the white division with a time of 16:52 was Rackers. Despite being stuck near the back of the race for the first kilometer, Rackers worked his way all the way to the front of the race.

Not far behind him came senior Joe Meier in sixth with a time of 17:11, and junior Nathan Rubbelke in seventh with a time of 17:12. Seniors Dan Raterman and Alan Ratermann rounded out the top 5 scoring in 15th and 19th respectively. Sixth on the team was junior Mike McLaughlin, who

finished in 21st, maintaining the traditional SLUH strategy of keeping together as a pack for most of the race.

"It's nice to have your brothers around you (in a race)," said Ratermann of the importance of pack running. "(The race was) at times a little slow, but we got the job done. (It was an) overall good day, and we got to see all our hard work pay off."

Meier, who ran with the State championship team last year, was overall satisfied with the results of Friday's race, though he did not reach his goal time-wise.

Meier's goal was to "get out fast, and be in front."

"I got out fine, it was a good race; I'm happy with 6th," said Meier. His goals for this season have not changed much since the

race; he still hopes to get a personal record under 16 minutes for a 5K, and earn a spot in the top 10 runners at State.

To contend at State, though, SLUH will need to run even tighter races as a team.

"Once we bring our racing times together, then we can talk about winning at State," said Porter about the importance of team unity.

SLUH will race at 12:05 on Saturday at Central Fields in Forest Park for the 2010 Forest Park Cross Country Festival. Teams from all over the Midwest are attending, but SLUH's A varsity hopes to achieve a victory for the fourth straight year. The SLUHA will include the top 9 runners, while SLUH B will include the next 9 runners in the varsity race as well.

PHOTO BY MRS. MARY ANN MUETH



From left: senior Alan Ratermann, junior Mike McLaughlin, seniors Eric Mueth, Joe Meier, Dan Raterman, and junior Nathan Rubbelke warm up before the race.

Swimming splits meets with Parkways

Squad of swimmers
gets first qualifying times

BY CULLIN TRIPP
REPORTER

The Junior Bills (1-1) started off their season with a win last Thursday, topping Parkway West 108-78.

"I thought we did pretty well. A lot of people improved their times, but I think we can continue to get better", said senior captain Jake Chisolm.

Along with the win, the team qualified its first batch of swimmers for state. The 200-yard medley relay team of junior Amir Paschal, senior Steve Hoerr, freshman Luke Sloan, and senior Michael Hagerty qualified for state with a time of 1:46.43. Paschal also qualified in the 100 butterfly with a time of

56.10, and junior Michael Barry qualified with a score of 243.

"Our first real swim meet was exciting! We went into the meet knowing it would be a tough matchup, but it felt good to get a win," commented head coach Rachel Graczak after the meet on Thursday.

Next on the list was Parkway South, a

PHOTO BY MR. MATT SCIUTO



Junior Amir Paschal surging forward in his lane.

solid team that finished fourth in the state meet last season. Even though the Jr. Bills swam a great meet, it wasn't enough to beat Parkway South. The final score was 111-74.

"We knew it was going to be a hard win, and even though we lost, we had a lot of good swims. That gives me hopes for the Marquette Relays, and I think we'll place highly," said Graczak.

Graczak has high hopes for Sloan, who finished first place in the 500 freestyle with a time of 5:08.98, just a second shy of state qualifying time. Hoerr also inched closer to state, with a first place and a time of 1:07.06 in the 100 yard breaststroke. Hoerr hopes to bring his time even lower to qualify for state. Qualifying time for the 100 breast is 1:05.59.

The Swimbills' next event is Marquette Relays this weekend, followed by a trip to Lafayette on Thursday, Sept. 16.

Underclassman sports updates

Thursday, September 4

JV Soccer (1-0)

SLUH 4, Fort Zumwalt South 1

Junior Joey Gasperoni tied the game at one in the first, and the Jr. Bills came out of halftime on fire, scoring three goals in the first two minutes of the second half.

—Nate Heagney

Friday, September 3

JV Soccer (2-0)

SLUH 2, DeSmet 0

Junior midfielder Joey Ferber scored from outside the goalie box late in the second half to add to sophomore forward Joey Coulson's early goal, and junior goalie Dave Trieschmann held the Spartans scoreless.

—Connor Madden

C Soccer (1-0)

SLUH 2, Vianney 0

The Jr. Bills' defense dominated both halves, and most of the action took part in Vianney's half. First-half goals by Chris Klepfel and Michael Dempster, both assisted by Tony Doellefeld, gave the Bills' the 2-0 win.

—Michael Daugherty

JV XC

First place at First Capitol Invitational

The 2010 JV XC swept its first race, and freshman John Esswein took the crown from his brother Joe by passing him with 600 meters to go and finishing with an outstanding 18:09 in his first high school 5k.

—Eric Mueth

Monday, September 6

B Soccer (1-0)

SLUH 1, DeSmet 0

Sophomore Nick Kosciak scored off a beautiful through ball by sophomore Matt Steurer, rifling his shot in the top shelf of the goal, and the defense held strong for the rest of the game as SLUH won 1-0.

—Eric Mueth

Tuesday, September 7

B Soccer (2-0)

SLUH 1, Oakville 0

SLUH's defense was very strong again in their second showing of the season, and sophomore Zach Hoffman received the ball in the box and scored to break the scoreless tie for the win.

—Eric Mueth

C Soccer (2-0)

SLUH 3, DeSmet 0

SLUH started the game slowly but kept the ball in DeSmet's end for most of the scoreless first half, as defender Tommy Hill killed several DeSmet breaks. Early in the second, though, defender Tim Manuel scored the go-ahead goal to win.

—Mike Lumetta

JV Football (0-2)

Ladue 10, SLUH 7

Though trailing 10-0 at halftime, sophomore Matt Binz connected with sophomore Alex Mackin for a 20-yard touchdown to cut it to 10-7. But SLUH's fifth interception and sixth turnover of the game ended SLUH's comeback hopes. Sophomore linebacker Xavier Reese contributed by notching 7 tackles and playing injured in second half.

—Drew Brants

Wednesday, September 8

B Soccer (3-0)

SLUH 3, Vianney 0

Sophomore Zach Hoffman scored in the first five minutes, and sophomore Teddy Thorpe made a great move to beat a defender and put the ball in the back of the net as the Bills clinched the Chaminade Tournament title.

—Eric Mueth

JV Soccer (3-0)

SLUH 6, Priory 1

Behind a hat trick from junior Joey Gasperoni, the Jr. Bills controlled the ball en route to an easy victory. Junior Luke Gilsinger also notched a goal to put the game out of reach.

—Nate Heagney

STUCO Representative Election Results

The following students were elected by their homerooms this week to be Student Council Homeroom Representatives:

Seniors

M101- Brian Bement
M104- David Dereak
M106- Patrick Fox
M108- Kevin Goessling
M110- Riley Konzen
M112- Kevin Leuck
M114- Will Meiners
M116- Zach Rauschenbach
M118- Will Schmitt
M122- Franklin Warner

Juniors

M206- Nick Breunig
M208- Reid Cavallini
M210- Sam Erlinger
M216- Dan Gorla and Ben Hilker (Co-representatives)
M218- Matt Hruz
M222- Chris Lynas
M224- Stephen Nelson
216C- Andrew Pitts
218C- Fritz Simmon
222C- Will Whitney

Sophomores

M201- Sam Bahlinger
M203- Michael Cella
M205- Andrew Garcia
M207- Anthony Heumann
M209- Peter Hummel
M215- Sam Martel
M217- Tyler McNeil
M219- Jack Schultz
M221- Scott Szewczyk