

# Prep News



"If nothing else, value the truth"

VOLUME LXXV

ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2010

sluh.org/prepnews

ISSUE 8

## Week for Life debuts this year

Action Table and Maternity Dirve meant to raise awareness

BY JACK GODAR REPORTER

The Students for Life Club sponsored a Life Week for SLUH this week in what they hope will be the first of many events to raise student awareness about pro-life issues. The two major parts of Life Week were the Action Table outside of the cafeteria and the Maternity Drive. In addition, the Students for Life Club led the school in morning prayer. Members of the club hope to teach people that being pro-life is more than being anti-abortion.

"It's probably the first time (that something like this has occurred) in four or five years," said moderator David Callon. "It's kind of like a mutual idea. It came up in a meeting last year."

One of the major goals of the week was to broaden students' understanding of what being pro-life means.

Senior David Farel said, "I think people have this stereotype



PHOTOS BY MR. MATT SCIUTO

**MCC Champs** SLUH's top seven run away with another conference championship at Forest Park Central Fields. From right, seniors Tim Rackers, Joe Meier, Alan Ratermann, junior Mike McLaughlin, senior Dan Raterman, and juniors Nathan Rubbelke and Joe Esswein lead the pack. See article on page 5.

that being pro-life is all about being anti-abortion."

Junior Ryan Burke also expressed this sentiment, saying, "Most people just think pro-life, oh, abortion. Other than that, people probably don't know much, they'll just know abortion," said Burke.

The Action Table featured pro-life petitions, one of which asks the state of Missouri not to execute Roderick Nunley on Oct.

20. The members of the Students for Life Club manning the table have also educated students about pro-life issues, such as abortion and the death penalty. Burke hopes that the available information will lead to students voting for more pro-life laws when they are able to vote.

"As we get through high school, we'll be turning 18, being able to vote, so it's good for people to know about pro-life issues and

how they can help," said Burke.

The Maternity Drive, which asked for household items such as socks, soap, and school supplies, will benefit Our Lady's Inn, a shelter for pregnant women and their children. Unfortunately, the student response has been less than stellar, with few students donating items so far.

The Students for Life hope to see LIFE, 8

## Probst, Schimmele star in *Oliver!*

Production helps children with disabilities onto the stage

BY JOE KLEIN CORE STAFF

Junior Christian Probst and freshman Michael Schimmele are currently starring in a production of *Oliver!* through Variety: The Children's Charity, an organization which provides a myriad of services to children with disabilities.

*Oliver!* is a musical adaptation of Charles' Dickens novel *Oliver Twist*, in which Oliver, an orphan, is sold to an undertaker's family. After running away, he is found by the Artful Dodger (whom Probst plays). The Artful Dodger takes him into his home and trains him to be a pickpocket, where he works for a man named Fagin and lives with fellow pickpockets.

"There's lots of murder in it, lots of comedy, lots of sadness, lots of happiness, a whole bunch of fun stuff in it," said Probst.

Probst easily won the audition for his role, which he credits to playing the Artful Dodger twice in the past—once through the Mundy and another time through Visitation Academy's production. He also has worked with Variety in the past, starring in their inaugural production of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* last year.

"He's quite a character," said Probst. "He's really funny, really clever, cunning, sort of the leader of the group. It's a really fun part."

This is Schimmele's second production through Variety, as he performed in the Ensemble of *Tom Sawyer* last year as well.

"I liked (performing through Variety) so much that I just had to come back to this family that developed there," said Schimmele, commenting on the close ties that developed between cast members during production.

This year, Schimmele was cast as a member of Fagin's gang.

"There's a lot of set changes, magic tricks, and so many things that you can do at such a young age and still play a major part in (the production)," said Schimmele.

*Oliver!* is directed by Lara Teeter, a Tony Award-winning actor. On working with a performer of such high caliber, Schimmele said

see VARIETY, 8

## Mates from Down Under visit SLUH

BY JOHN SACHS REPORTER

Twenty-five students from St. Ignatius College Riverview (SICR) in Sydney, Australia, fully clad in Blue Crew paint, led Jr. Bills' fans in the varsity football game against Eureka High School last Friday.

"The crowd was going wild. It was awesome," said Australian Cameron Prentice.

The group from the Australian Jesuit high school arrived at St. Louis U. High last Thursday on the last leg of an eighteen-day trip. To be eligible for the trip, the Australians had to take a business studies, economics, or geography course.

The group visited New York, Washington, D.C., and Chicago, before finishing in St. Louis. In each city, the group met with alumni of both SLUH and SICR in the business world. In New York, for example, the group met with representatives from McKinsey and Co.,

a management firm, and visited with a stock broker on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. In St. Louis, the Australians met with the owner of a local McDonald's franchise.

"It's sort of a holiday, but we

up to each host, and included trips to the Arch, a senior CYC soccer game, and the varsity soccer game against Jefferson City.

"It really helped me understand another culture from the perspective of someone my age, as opposed to just reading something in a book," said senior host Andy Eilers.

All of the visitors from Australia adorned themselves with paint and joined in on the madness of Blue Crew in the game on Friday against Eureka.

"They were all very excited to be able to cheer and to bring an Australian flavor to the football game," said chaperone and former SLUH theology teacher Suzanne Walsh.

"The best bit about it was definitely being in St. Louis, being with people our age and having fun," said Prentice.



The Australians cheer on the St. Louis U. High football team at last Friday's game.

also go to business meetings and learn how businesses run," said Australian Michael Fitzgerald.

The group stayed in hotels for the majority of the trip, only boarding with American families in St. Louis. The weekend attractions for the visitors were largely

The weekly student newspaper of St. Louis U. High  
4970 Oakland Ave. - St. Louis, MO 63110  
(314) 531-0330 ext. 2241  
online at sluh.org/prepnews  
prepnews@sluh.org

Copyright ©2010 St. Louis University High School Prep News. No material may be reprinted without the permission of the editors and moderator.

### SPORTS

#### XC wins MCC Championship

Rackers breaks 16 to become the individual champ, and the team runs away with the victory at Forest Park. Page 5

#### Soccer avenges Vianney

After rattling off victories against FHN and Jeff City, the Jr. Bills beat Vianney 2-0, improve to 17-3 and are ranked 14th. Page 5

### NEWS

#### The Piano Man

Freshman Sam Krausz fills the empty chapel with music each day as he sharpens his piano skills. Page 4

#### FEATURE

#### Rachel Graczak, swim coach

Rachel Graczak, SLUH's second female coach, is bringing a different perspective and a wealth of experience to swim team. Page 6

### OPINION

#### Film: The Zuckerberg generation

*The Social Network* portrays the Face of Facebook as a morally ambiguous leader of the Internet generation. Page 3

#### Notebook: Uncle Sam's little note

Receiving the Selective Service letter from the government stirs up thoughts of the draft, of adulthood, of the end of childhood. Page 3

# Seven straight conference championships for XC

## XC wins MCC title, top seven finish 10th or higher

BY GREG FISTER  
REPORTER

Tensions were high at Saturday's Metro Catholic Conference Championship as the top runners from SLUH, CBC, DeSmet, Chaminade, and Vianney met at Forest Park's Central Fields to crown a conference champion. All of SLUH's top seven varsity runners showed their immense talent and dedication, none of them finishing below 10th place out of a race of 35 runners.

Senior Tim Rackers came in first place overall, finishing with a stunning time of 15:57. In third place overall, second for SLUH, came senior Joe Meier, finishing just 20 seconds behind Rackers in 16:17. Juniors Michael McLaughlin and Nathan Rubbelke finished in third and fourth for SLUH, respectively. Both of their times were recorded as 16:21, but McLaughlin just barely finished in front of Rubbelke to claim his place as SLUH's third-fastest runner in the race.

The rest of the varsity team performed remarkably: seniors Alan Ratermann and Dan Raterman and junior Joe Esswein rounded out the squad, and nobody from SLUH's team finished with a time over 17 minutes.

SLUH was the favorite for this race, as the team has won almost all the conference championships in recent history. But the championship wasn't just handed to them.

"The weeks before the (Conference race), we had been working really hard, so the week before, we prepared for the race by taking a down week—we let our muscles rest a little. Then we came into the race confident, full of energy and ready to win," said Rackers of the team's preparation. "I think that's the way we'll do it for State—taper off a little, but come into the race with a strong mental focus."

Head coach Joe Porter had "a very good feeling about (SLUH's) fitness level coming into the race" and said that the team exceeded expectations. Porter highlighted the importance of the team's focus on minimizing the time between SLUH's first and fifth runners' finishes. Rackers' time of 15:57 to Alan Ratermann's time of 16:41 established the first-to-fifth time spread of SLUH's fastest runners at an incredible 44 seconds.

"The one-five spread, at 44 seconds, is exactly where we want it to be," said Porter.

## Soccer on a seven-game streak

BY PATRICK HART  
REPORTER

SLUH soccer truly seems in top form. The team is currently on a seven-game winning streak, which has moved them up to No. 14 nationally on ESPN's high school soccer rankings. Senior Brian Bement was also named High School Athlete of the Week by KTVI.

When asked about the recent rise to the top 20, senior captain and midfielder Richie Hoffman said, "We can't let it go to our heads. It's pretty cool, but we have got a lot left to do. We have to focus on dominating our opponents and keep up our style of play."

Throughout this week, the Bills have been steadily taking apart opponents with a seemingly unstoppable combination of rock-solid defense and a lightning-quick attack. Many of the goals seem to come off great clearances and crosses by senior captain and back Rob Carr. His calm demeanor on the field has set the tone for the team.

Last Thursday, the team trekked to St. Charles for a matchup with Francis Howell North. Troubles with field conditions seemed to affect the Bills initially, but as they became settled, the attacks started to flow like usual. The goals came from juniors Paul Buehler, Mason "The Ace" Suess, and Ryan Merrifield. It looked as if many more goals would have been possible had it not been for some very skilled opposing goalkeeping.

On a bright and warm Saturday afternoon, the Bills hosted unranked Jefferson City. The fans were treated to a glimpse of the depth of SLUH's goalkeeping squad when junior Ryan Suddarth got the start and eventually the shutout, his second of the season.

Although it was hot, Hoffman was all over the field and his efforts were rewarded when he scored his second goal of the season. Hoffman shouldn't be overlooked as an offensive threat, as most of the goals this season for the Jr. Bills have come off of great runs and passes by Hoffman.

Junior defenseman Sam Steurer beat the keeper on an odd shot from the inline to make the game 2-0.

The heat seemed to take a toll on both teams. Most of the second half was played on Jeff City's half of midfield with the Bills attacking sporadically, although another goal did not result.

Tuesday night was the big game of the week. The Jr. Bills had an opportunity to avenge their early loss to Vianney in the CBC Tournament. Carr came out hot with a precise free kick to the head of Steurer

"But we are going to continue to work on closing the gap all the way to Tim (Rackers)."

Rackers, who is now the fastest cross country runner in the entire Metro Catholic Conference, said of Saturday's race, "It feels great to be conference champ." Although he admits he didn't run the race "as fast as I wanted, you have to be happy coming home with a first place medal in the Conference Championships."

Tomorrow SLUH races its third seven at the Borgia Invitational in Washington, Mo. The weeks after that are the District meet at McCluer North, Sectionals in St. Charles, and then finally the State meet in Jefferson City.

Porter believes SLUH's prospects at a State win for SLUH still seem bright.

"If we can have our one-five spread where it is now for the State meet, then we will definitely be in the hunt, and that's where we want to be. One of the things I've noticed over the years is that you just need a little bit of luck to go your way on the right day, and if that happens we can definitely win it," said Porter.

10 minutes into the game. It looked like a goal, but the Vianney keeper was able to get a hand on the ball to knock it out. Although SLUH was unable to score in the first half head, coach Charlie Martel said in a postgame interview, "We had great chances the entire first half. The last touch inside the box is what kept us from scoring, but besides that it was a great first half."

Eighteen minutes into the first half, the crowd got a glimpse of impressive goalkeeping on the SLUH end when senior captain Andrew Evola (who was playing with a stomach virus) stopped a Vianney breakthrough that might have left a lesser goalie grabbing the ball out of the back of the net.

The first goal of the night finally came

PHOTO BY TED WIGHT



Senior Richie Hoffman dribbles around a Vianney player in the team's victory last Tuesday.

## Ward nails Jr. Bills with 5.7 to go

BY RYAN DOWD  
REPORTER

Matt Ward, Eureka's senior kicker, stood poised in his stance waiting for the snap and the hold that would follow in crisp, smooth succession. The snap was good, the hold was good, and Ward made solid contact from 40 yards out as the ball flew over the cross bar, straight and true. The boot gave Eureka a three-point lead and SLUH another heartbreaking loss.

With 5.7 seconds remaining, the St. Louis U. High Junior Bills (3-4, 1-2 Metro Catholic Conference) had a chance to escape with a miracle victory, but the same hook and ladder play used against CBC fell short yet again.

Overall, the punishing Eureka ground attack kept the explosive Jr. Bill offense off the field, wore out a banged up Jr. Bill defense, and led the Wildcats to their sixth victory and the Jr. Bills' to their second straight loss.

The high-flying Jr. Bill offense lived up to its billing on their first snap of the game. Junior signal caller Trevor McDonagh slid back and spun a strike to fellow junior standout Stefan Sansone on a post route up the middle. Sansone raced to the end zone to give SLUH the early 7-0 lead.

Of the offense, McDonagh said, "It's awesome having more than one option every play because everybody can make a play."

After the Wildcats used the running game to smash the ball down into field goal range, junior defensive end Jamil Irvin-Mohammad pounced on Eureka running back Spencer Stein twice for consecutive sacks. The sacks pushed Eureka out of field goal range.

Turnovers killed Jr. Bill drives and gave the Wildcats extra opportunities, though. McDonagh tried to force the ball to Sansone up the seam and was picked off by a Eureka defender. On the following possession, Eureka defenders swarmed and stripped junior running back Terek Hawkins as he fought for extra yardage. With a short field, the Wildcats pounded the ball inside, and quarterback Sean Strehl eventually scored from 7 yards out. After another long catch by Sansone, junior running back Cameron Stubbs scored on a 9-yard sweep.

With the second quarter ticking away the Jr. Bills had a chance to pull ahead with the score 14-10. Another interception brought the drive to an untimely end however, and the first half closed with the Jr. Bills slightly ahead.

"It's hard when you don't have the ball but it was us turning the ball over that hurt

us," said McDonagh.

As the second half progressed, the Eureka running game began to take its toll. With senior captain John Brusati missing at strong side linebacker and key junior starter Paul Simon out at free safety, the Jr. Bill defense had to shuffle the lineup. Stefan Sansone played both ways at receiver and free safety while four junior linebackers had to compensate for the absence of Brusati.

Assistant coach Matt Buha said, "When you're missing key players every single week, it's hard for kids to play as one unit,

PHOTO BY TED WIGHT



Junior Stefan Sansone tries to juke a Eureka defender.

and I think we've run into that defensively."

Not only was the defense banged up, but battling the sheer number of plays run against them was a daunting task. The Wildcats ran 44 running plays and 69 plays total. They piled out a total of 283 yards rushing split between Strehl and Stein, who alone had 203 yards. Strehl ended with three rushing touchdowns, which were Eureka's only touchdowns. Ward's two field goals made the difference, though.

Brian Silvestri booted a 39-yard field goal early in the third quarter to give SLUH a seven point lead.

Once again the offense ran through the McDonagh-to-Sansone connection. McDonagh went 10 for 15 for 211 yards and Sansone caught seven balls for 188 yards and a touchdown.

Early in the fourth quarter, with the game tied at 17, McDonagh fired a rope to Sansone on a corner route. Sansone snatched the ball a few yards short of the pylon and was knocked out of bounds before he could make a move. McDonagh shuffled in behind senior center Will Meiners for the score moments later.

Moving down the field with the game tied at 24 and the clock ticking down, the Jr. Bills were looking for a big play. The Jr. Bill fans asked, and Sansone provided. With the ball thrown behind and slightly above him, he spun in the air while simultaneously reaching out with his right hand. The point of the football flew directly into said hand and into the possession of Sansone. The catch cannot be fully appreciated without seeing pictures or video.

With this catch of the year, the Jr. Bills see FOOTBALL, 6