

## Despite a late comeback, Chaminade bests football Billikens 26-21

BY MAR LONSWAY  
REPORTER

It has been a grim first half of the season for the Jr. Bills football team, whomost recently fell to the Red Devils of Chaminade 26-21, dropping a third consecutive game.

Star St. Louis U. High running back senior Raymond Wingo was the first to put a mark on the scoreboard last Friday evening. The senior captain tore through the devilish defense for a 21-yard touchdown just three minutes into the first quarter. Junior placekicker Jake Cox, who saw his first start on the varsity squad, successfully converted the extra point.

Chaminade was quick to counter for the first of four consecutive scoring drives against the Jr. Bills. Chaminade halfback Dominique Bobo led the onslaught, ultimately dashing over the SLUH end zone for a nine-yard carry. Chaminade placekicker and quarterback Thomas Martin, however, failed to chip the ball through the uprights.

On the Devils' next drive, Martin connected with Chaminade freshman Reginald Crawford for a 17-yard score. After the touchdown, SLUH stopped Bobo on the two-point conversion at-

tempt.

Chaminade's special teams continued to suffer throughout the evening, making only two of the five points during their conversion plays.

SLUH, on the other hand, scored every point after touchdowns for the first time this season.

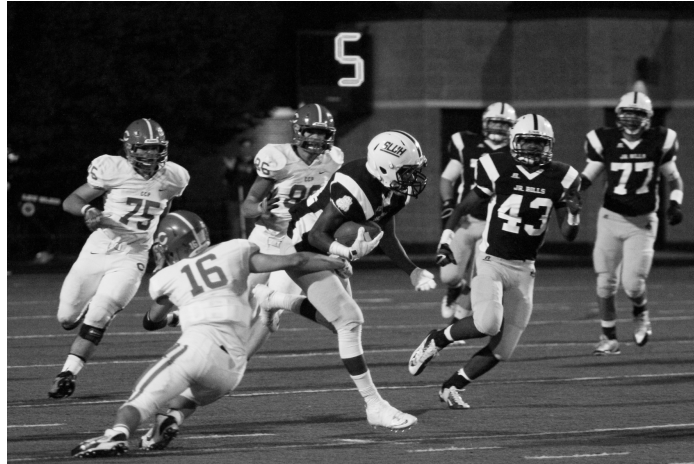
"It feels great to get them out of the way," said Cox. "I think I'll be a lot more comfortable playing against DeSmet."

After the failed run, Chaminade took to the sky once again, as junior Mark Gorman caught a pass for a 10-yard touchdown. Martin also scored the extra point for the first time of the evening.

For Chaminade's last scoring drive of the game, Bobo squeezed through SLUH's secondary for a three-yard touchdown. The Red Devils led the game 26-7 at half.

"The first half we were struggling on both sides of the ball," said junior offensive lineman Christian Stewart. "The second half, I think everything started coming together, and it was a lot better."

With a revamped approach to the game after halftime, SLUH proved much more dominant than Chaminade in the second



Raymond Wingo breaks a tackle against Chaminade.

photo | Ben Banet

half. Senior quarterback Sam Sykora threw to Wingo for a 28-yard touchdown, the longest scoring play of the evening.

Then, with just over three minutes left in the final quarter, SLUH senior fullback Michael Hall rushed for a six-yard touch-

down to put SLUH within five.

SLUH's offense wasn't the only aspect of the team that prospered during the second half. SLUH's defense held Chaminade scoreless in the second half as well. Senior linebacker TJ Daniels led the defense with 11 tackles

while weak side linebacker, Hall, was second at ten. Sophomore David Jackson and senior Marcus Ramsport each recovered a forced fumble, putting SLUH in position to score during their final drives.

The team will travel to DeSmet for its final MCC game tonight at 7 p.m.

## Crossing plains of Illinois, cross country grabs sixth at Palatine

BY MICHAEL SIT  
REPORTER

Some members of the cross-country team wrestled with the tough hills in Jefferson Barracks at the Hancock Invitational this week while the top 14 runners traveled to Chicago for the Palatine Invitational.

Head coach Joe Porter and assistant coach Tom Flanagan took the top 14 XCbills to Chicago.

Among the varsity Palatine racers, SLUH sent junior Shayn Jackson (19th; medalist), junior Matt Hennessey (33rd), junior Jack Sullivan (52nd), senior captains Tom Rubio (54th) and John Esswein (67th), sophomore Joe Butler (81st), and junior Thomas Hogan (102nd). Varsity took sixth place overall out of 30 teams, just one place shy of receiving a plaque.

The JV team was led by medalists sophomore Dustan Davidson (8th) and junior Garret Fox (14th).

Stellar times came from all of the SLUH Palatine athletes, but notably Jackson (15:35), Davidson (16:25), and Rubio (15:56).

Of the weekend at Palatine, Jackson stated, "The course was so flat. I liked it a lot because the flatness made it easy. The number one team in the nation was in that race and on top of that, Illinois teams just tend to be faster a lot of the time, so it was extremely competitive. Our strategy was just going out fast and not racing scared but instead racing confidently. We got separated a lot during the race. I didn't see any other teammates until after we were done, so that is something we need to work on.



An exhausted varsity cross country team assembled during the Palatine Invitational, where the team placed sixth out of 30 competing teams.

photo | Mr. Joe Porter

All of the other cross country runners spiked up for the Hancock Invitational. Despite the Fall Ball festivities preceding the race, the team fought just as hard at the meet. The Jeff Barracks course had a number of challenging hills that the XCbills had to conquer.

Without Porter and Flanagan at the Hancock Invite, coaches Chris Scott and Brian Gilmore advised the team.

The third-string varsity, which consisted of senior captain Jerry Amsler (75th), junior Nick Booth (77th), sophomore Ethan McIntyre (82nd), sophomore Nolan Doorack (83rd), sophomore Jake Lepak (88th), sophomore Pete Genovese (92nd), and junior Ryan Blechle (94th), competed in the varsity race for SLUH.

Amsler represented the captains and the seniors well, finishing first for the SLUH competitors with a time of 18:51.

The varsity team showed how well they worked together, finishing within five places of each other.

"The fact that four of our five scorers finished within 10 seconds really shows how well we can work as a team," McIntyre said. "Running in a group of navy is a lot easier than trying to run with people you don't know. Since most of the guys that ran varsity in this race are usually running JV, I think this just shows why we have had so much success in the JV division this year."

When asked about the other teams competing in the varsity race, Doorack said, "Everyone seemed like a good team compared to our V3 squad. West Plains sure looked good out there and also Lafayette was kicking butt."

SLUH placed thirteenth out of 18 for the varsity race on Sat-

urday. The seniors dominated the junior varsity race at the Hancock Invite. The top seven SLUH finishers for the race consisted of seniors Peter Charles (8th medalist), David Szatkowski (14th; medalist), Brendan Keuss (26th), Matt Thomas (29th), Peter Mungenast (30th), Alex Sextro (32nd), and Michael Sit (33rd).

Charles hauled the team with an impressive time of 18:30 (a new personal record), and Szatkowski raced an 18:44 (a new personal record for him as well) for his first 5K of the season.

"I really relished outkicking a group of five Kirkwood racers," said Szatkowski. "I knew I was towards the front, and that they were in a position to win with five guys towards the front, so I decided to pass them, and it happened. It felt great," Szatkowski said.

With the combined effort

from the seniors, SLUH finished third place overall in the junior varsity race. Despite the late night from Fall Ball, the SLUH athletes had to arrive to the meet ready to go at 6:30 am on Saturday.

"The course was pretty tough," said senior Michael Kasper. "There were some rockin hills."

Every hill was a battle for the athletes at Jeff Barracks. One hill in particular was deemed "surprise hill" because it is an extremely big incline at the end of a sharp turn with lots of loose gravel.

"Surprise hill was still a surprise even after seeing it before the race. Its placement is right after two mile, making it a killer," said Doorack.

The team has a meet this Saturday at Parkway West.