

Football Bills look to run over Vikings with Wingo under center

WILL GREINER
REPORTER

Saint Louis U. High Head football coach Gary Kornfeld used one word to describe last year's magical football season: outstanding.

An incredible eight-game win streak in the latter half of the season; the thrill of victory when the entire school flooded the field after the last-second victory over rival DeSmet, watching such great talent take the field every Friday night and make our school proud with their masterful play. It was glorious. It was magical. But now it is over and a new season has begun.

Guided by the leadership of the coaches and captains, this year's squad aims to repeat last year's success. With 15 returning seniors from last year's squad along with the addition of six sophomores, the new team is energized with a healthy combination of youth and experience which provides a unique pool of talent for the coaches to choose from and play on the field.

This season the team returns a few starters on each side of the ball. The lack of varsity playing experience doesn't shake the players.

"Many of those seniors and

juniors (without a lot of playing time) are coming up with a lot of good experiences from JV and are ready to take action," said senior captain Andy Riek.

One of the exciting new changes to this year's team is the introduction of junior Raymond Wingo at quarterback. Wingo replaces graduated three-year starter Trevor McDonagh, who holds virtually all of SLUH's passing records. After a year at the position of defensive corner, Wingo returns back to the role of quarterback which he excelled at as a freshman in 2010.

Wingo's multidimensional attack will be a threat on many different levels. Wingo has an impressive arm and dynamic speed, and he looks to be an offensive game-changer in this upcoming season.

A few other positions to keep an eye out for are this year's offensive line and wide receivers. With three returning starters on the offensive line led by captains Alec Abeln and Riek, the O-line looks to bring both intensity and smart play to the field.

The wide receiver corps includes seasoned veterans such as senior captain Matt Hinklebein and senior Joe Reardon.

It would be a serious mistake



A football player, surrounded by fellow receivers, launches himself into the air to catch a punted ball.

to think that this year's team is going to be all about offense, though. "Like anything else you've got to have a good defense," said Kornfeld when asked of the way to success this year.

With senior captains Alex Mackin and Nick Granberry leading the way on defense, the Jr. Bills look to focus on containing the run and shutting down their

opponents passing game.

This week's game against Parkway North will be the first of many tests for the Jr. Bills in a long and challenging schedule which includes teams such as last year's State runner-up CBC, DeSmet, Chamainade and many other formidable opponents.

Despite all the changes to this year's squad, the attitude among

the team is not one of anxiety or nervousness but rather one of high expectations, excitement, and thrill.

"(I'm excited about) just getting started," said Kornfeld. "I want to see us going out and play on Friday night, Parkway North, and hopefully we have this place here packed. We hope to put our best foot forward Friday night."

photo | Ben Banet

Young soccer team looks to rebound from disappointing season, loss of starters



Senior Teddy Thorpe chases the ball during a practice drill.

BY JUSTIN SINAY
REPORTER

Almost all the talk of players to the St. Louis Soccer Scott Gallagher Academy team, the St. Louis U. High varsity soccer team was working tirelessly over the summer. The team hopes to make a run this season at the program's fourth state soccer championship and first since 2003.

Head coach Charlie Martel sees pretty pleased with the group.

"The seniors have been working hard, they've made a huge commitment, and in my mind it's the senior leadership that'll make a difference this year," said Martel. "I think they're going to be a very intelligent team, and I think they're going to play as a team."

The seniors understand that, and they're bringing all the guys together."

Some of the questions surrounding this upcoming season are about the players lost to St. Louis Soccer Academy, who were forced to make a tough decision because of a league change making them ineligible for high

school soccer if they continued to play for the Academy. The team lost senior Joe Rund, a three-year starter, as well as seniors Matt Steurer and Blake Gonzalez, both of whom had varsity spots last year.

"For us, these games are huge, these games will tell us exactly where we're at," said Hoffman.

The players went through a tough Ajax Soccer Camp this summer to prepare them physically for the season, training two hours a day for four weeks in the excruciating July heat.

"This team is special because of the chemistry we have on and off the field already," said senior captain Tony Bright. "We haven't played a game but we feel like a team because we work for each other."

As for the makeup of the team, two freshmen earned spots this year: Matt Frein and Spencer Jones.

The team also returns with a strong core of seniors: the three captains Bright, Hoffman, and Christopher Gys, as well as Nick Kocisak and Joe Grady. Bright will be anchoring the back line, while Hoffman and Kocisak will be a formidable scoring duo. Gys and Grady will set the tone as midfielders.

"The freshman were a great addition to our team and I'm glad they are with us," said Hoffman. "I feel like this team has a lot of heart and we work hard as a unit. We have a lot of chemistry and I believe that this will help us succeed this year."

As for expectations, Martel made the goals pretty clear. "Our goals are always the same. We want to win a state championship, and we want to win every game." The Jr. Bills will open the season at Gibault on Monday, Aug. 27 at 6:45.

Senior-led swimming tries to return to State

BY JUSTIN JELLINEK
REPORTER

After a great finish last year, the ASLHU swim team is ready to gear up for another great year. Last year, the SwimBills finished sixth in the state and recovered their lost MCC title, two feats that came from lots of hard work.

Although many of the largest contributors last year were seniors that are no longer on the team, the swimmers remain hopeful, noting the many freshmen that joined the team this year.

Among the contributors this year will be captains Chris Favier, Nick Koors, Ryan Castleton, and Justin Jellinek. Favier and Coors were both part of the sixth place state team last year, and both are hoping to lead the team to another strong finish. While Castle-

ton and Jellinek were state team alternates, they hope to contribute more fully this year, perhaps swimming in individual events.

To reach these goals, the captains have tried to instill a new mindset into the team: using each day to improve as swimmers.

Trying to replace the swimming power houses in Amir Paschal, Sam Erlinger, and Pieter Derdeyn from last year, the captains hope to use this goal to do their best in creating a team where everyone can contribute at every meet.

"I'm excited for the season this year with the new direction the team has taken choosing to intensify the program," said head coach Rachel Graczyk. "I'm looking forward to good matches in our first two meets against Parkway West and Parkway South.

XC primed and ready to go for First Capital Invitational

photo | Mr. Matt Scuto



Cross country stars wait their turn for a relaxing ice bath following an after school run.

BRIAN SUHRE
REPORTER

Having endured a sweltering summer, the members of the St. Louis U. High cross country team look poised to establish new personal records and contend for the team's first state championship since 2009. The team finished in fifth place last year, the first time they have failed to medal since 2004.

Essential parts of successful SLUH squads in the past have been team depth and spirit, with each runner, regardless of his talent level, pushing the runner in front of him. Coach Joe Porter emphasized that the team's primary goal this year is that each indi-

vidual runner reach his potential.

As with most years, the team has had to replace a slew of top seniors, including All-State runner Mike McLaughlin and leaders Nathan Rubbelke and Joe Eswein.

Seniors Matt Nicholson and Joe Archer and junior Tom Rubio look to make up the top three runners based on early practices. Seniors Tom Laughlin and David Arredondo, juniors John Esswein, Peter Rackers, and Michael Swan, and sophomores Shayn Jackson and Matthew Hennessey will compete to fill out the final four of the top seven varsity places.

The drought-ridden summer, the hottest in decades, did

not slow down the team over the break, as four runners ran over 400 miles in training, which sets up a very interesting battle for spots at the top.

"This summer was a hot one but for the most part guys still managed to get their mileage in," said senior runner Matt Raeber. "It can really help out later in the season when the team takes that extra step."

The Jr. Bills open up their racing schedule on Aug. 31 at the First Capital Invitational at McNair Park in St. Charles, where they will field a small squad of 28 runners. Following First Capital is the Forest Park XC Festival on Sep. 8, a meet SLUH organizes

and hosts. Porter said that the field at Forest Park has expanded to more than 4000 runners, the largest it has ever been. The meet will have more of a "carnival atmosphere" this year, according to Porter, with a new pasta dinner and college race on Sept. 7 along with photo booths and other amenities the day of the race.

The festival will provide a good early indicator of SLUH's standing, as they will be competing against top in-state and out-of-state competition, including Rock Bridge from outside Jefferson City and Marquette University High School from Milwaukee.

When asked about the team's State chances, Porter said he believes SLUH matches up with the other top teams in the state.

"We have 10 and a half weeks to go," Porter said. "Our focus is just getting better every week and seeing if we can't improve, and then we'll let State take care of itself."

Big River Running Company has ranked the team third in "preseason rankings, behind Blue Springs and Rock Bridge, a ranking that Porter finds accurate. Preseason rankings, however, mean little once the season is underway, and the Jr. Bills are looking to have an exciting season, hoping to end with medals at the State meet on Nov. 3.

2012 Varsity Football Schedule

- 8/24 vs Parkway North
- 9/7 at CBC
- 9/14 vs Vianney
- 9/21 at Chamainade
- 9/27 vs DeSmet
- 10/5 vs Lafayette
- 10/12 vs Mehlville
- 10/19 at Oakville

*all games at 7:00 PM

- From www.sluh.org

"Le sens commun est fort rare."

-Voltaire

Underclassmen Sports Reporting

The Prep News is looking for underclassmen to report scores and stats for underclassmen sports. If interested, come to the Prep News office in J220 any day after school or email us at prepnews@sluh.org.

Spring Sports Honors

Water Polo

Chris Favier '13 All-District Third Team,
Pieter Derdeyn '12 All-District Second Team,
Sean Sullivan '12 All-District First Team

Peter Derdeyn '12 Missouri Water Polo Defensive Player of the Year
Sam Erlinger '12 All-District First Team, Missouri Water Polo Offensive Player of the Year, Post-Dispatch All-Metro Water Polo Player of the Year

2012 All-State (20 total in Missouri)
Michael Leritz '12
Thomas Place '12
Sam Cannon '12
John Jedlicka '12
Stephen Lordo '13
Chip Moloney '12

Volleyball

Tom Beckmann '13 All-Metro First Team, All-State First Team
Barrett Pazderka '12 All-State First Team,
Luke Naegeli '12 All-State Second Team

Baseball

Kaleb King '13 All-Conference Second Team
Brian Howard '13 All-Conference Second Team
Willie Floros '12 All-Metro Second Team
Andrew Pitts '12 All-Conference First Team
Paul Simon '12 All-Conference First Team

Lacrosse

2nd Team All-Conference
Dan Tlapcek '12
Justin Mayfield '13
Mark Weber '12
John Lawler '13

1st Team All-Conference (40 total in Missouri)
Michael Leritz '12
Thomas Place '12
Sam Cannon '12
John Jedlicka '12
Stephen Lordo '13
Chip Moloney '12

2012 All-American (6 total in Missouri)
John Jedlicka '12
Stephen Lordo '13
Thomas Place '12

All-Metro
Thomas Place '12
Michael Leritz '12
Stephen Lordo '13
John Jedlicka '12

2012 Lacrosse State Champs



photo | Mr. Matt Scuto
graphic | Ben Banet

The St. Louis U. High lacrosse team earned its second state championship on Saturday, May 26. The Jr. Bills defeated top-seeded MICDS by a score of 7-6 as a last minute goal put the team in the lead. The team finished with a 21-1 record, its only loss coming in a regular season match up against MICDS. Following the season the team was ranked 10th among all Midwest high schools by Lacrosse Magazine, while three players were named All-Americans.