

## Storm chasing Bills ready for Forest Park XC meet

BY BRIAN SUHRE  
REPORTER

Mother Nature has not looked kindly on the First Capital Invitational in recent years. Last year the meet was canceled because of extreme heat, and this year the meet, scheduled for last Friday, was canceled because of the threat of dangerous thunderstorms from the remnants of Hurricane Isaac. The St. Louis U. High cross country team once again must wait for the Forest Park Cross Country Festival tomorrow to race in its first official meet.

In order to simulate a racing experience in place of the First Capital Invitational, the team held a time trial last Friday afternoon on the SLUH track in between storms. While the track is obviously not comparable to a true cross country course, conditions were still unfavorable to the runners, who were forced to race with a reduced warm-up time in wet weather.

Some very impressive times showed that the team is ready to compete at a high level this year. Senior captain Matt Nicholson won the 5K time trial with a blistering time of 16:12, a sign that the team has lost no time at the front end of the top five from last year.

Junior Tom Rubio came in second with another impressive time of 16:36, senior captain Joe Archer came in at 16:45, sophomore Shayn Jackson finished fourth with a time of 16:57 and sophomore Matthew Hennessey completed the top five with a time of 17:06.

For an early season race, the 1:06 time split between the top five is a good indicator of continued success for the team as the real racing season begins.

The team now sets its eyes on the always-exciting Forest Park Cross Country Festival this Saturday. The FPXC Fest, organized by SLUH, is always the largest race of the year for the team in

terms of number of teams and runners. This year will set a new attendance record with over 3,700 runners from nearly 200 teams.

The race has truly become the destination meet of the Midwest over the past few years, and will this year feature out-of-state competition from Wisconsin, Illinois, Kentucky, and Arkansas. O'Fallon (Ill.) finished as Illinois State runners up last year and return the core of that varsity squad this year, making them a favorite to win the meet. Marquette University High School from Milwaukee will also look to provide strong out of state competition to in state favorites Rock Bridge, Blue Springs, Marquette, and SLUH.

The meet will also have a few quirks rules-wise, with each varsity team able to field nine runners instead of the customary seven and SLUH fielding two varsity teams.

Head coach and meet organizer Joe Porter said, "We're bringing in a lot of things trying to make it a carnival atmosphere: bringing in photo booths, a pasta dinner for the out of state athletes the night before, as well as a college meet the night before organized by SLU." The race will also feature the usual full barbeque and merchandise stand.

The team is excited for the largest meet of the year.

"Forest Park is always a really competitive meet, with teams coming from all over," Nicholson said. "Even with the tough competition, I feel like this year's team can bring home a couple trophies and a bunch of medals this year if we race well."

SLUH JV runs at 9:30 and the varsity team runs at 12:15. The meet is at its same location as prior years at Central Fields in Forest Park. With temperatures only expected to be in the mid-70s on Saturday, race conditions will be nearly perfect and will be sure to lead to another fast and entertaining meet.

## Football transitions to new offense

### Jr. Bills look to Wingo for CBC game

BY WILL GREINER  
REPORTER

This season, junior Raymond Wingo looks to build his own legacy on the St. Louis U. High football team, following his brother Ronnie, '09 (now playing at Arkansas) and last year's quarterback and holder of numerous passing records, Trevor McDonagh, '12.

Wingo, plays quarterback for this year's Footbills. In his first game under center, Wingo rushed for 177 yards in the Jr. Bills' season opener against Parkway North, which included an 80-yard, game-winning touchdown. He also threw the ball for 18 yards in the victory.

"He is a very talented young man that can make things happen when things might not be there," said head coach Gary Kornfeld. "He makes people miss."

"He really showed his phenomenal athleticism in running the football on Friday," said senior

captain Alex Mackin. "I expect big things out of him for the rest of the way. Lots of yards, lots of touchdowns."

However, even with such success in last Friday's game, Wingo insists that there is much for him to work on.

"There is always need for improvement," Wingo said.

Wingo attributes his success to his teammates.

"I know sometimes the line gets overlooked but they are without a doubt the reason our offense is able to move efficiently," said Wingo. "(The running backs) gave me courage and told me to keep playing hard," said Wingo.

When asked about Wingo's leadership qualities, junior tackle T.J. Daniels said, "Raymond is an excellent leader. He's quiet, but he's a good leader at the same time. When he has to be vocal, he's vocal. When he has to lead by example, he leads by example. He just takes control of the team."

With such powerful responses to Wingo's new role as quarterback for the team, the Footbills look to upset rival CBC tonight at CBC.

This week's game against

CBC marks the first time since last year's 66-28 loss that the Jr. Billiken football team will square off against its bitter rivals. There almost seems to be an attitude of revenge against the Cadets for stifling last year's magical playoff run into the State Final Four.

"We want to get back at CBC for all of the disappointment they brought to our team last year," said Mackin of this week's game.

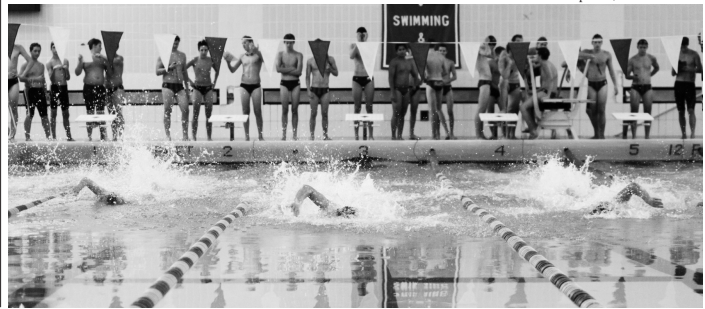
Senior captain Andy Reik said, "We're just going to come out, play hard, and play our game, and we definitely know that we can beat them."

Both teams have relatively different squads from last year's teams and it will be interesting to watch these two teams face off come Friday. Perhaps this change of personnel is all that will be needed for the Jr. Bills to end their seven-game losing streak to the Cadets.

When asked about Friday's game and the hype surrounding it, senior captain Alec Abeln said, "I feel really good about how we match up. It will be a fun game to watch and a fun game to play in. It's CBC week. I mean it doesn't get much better than that."

## Swimming barely falls to powerful P. South

photo | Sam Beckmann



Swimmers compete for the lead in a freestyle race at Parkway West.

BY JUSTIN JELLINEK  
REPORTER

After meets against two of the Parkway South and Parkway West, SLUH swimming has made a strong start to the season. Though they lost both meets, the SwimBills lost to the juggernauts from last year, Parkway South, within one point—a feat that the team did not even accomplish with the likes of last year's superstars Sam Erlinger, Pieter Derdeyn, and Amir Paschal.

Doing more than his fair share to fill their shoes, freshman phenom Justin Andrews already has state qualifying times in the 200-meter IM and the 200 freestyle (2:06.00 and 1:51:43, respectively).

After only two meets, the rest of the season looks bright for this up-and-coming swimmer, who is only a few seconds off the State qualifying time in the 500 freestyle as well.

Against Parkway South, the Jr. Bills found a lot of momentum, with senior Chris Favier only .02 seconds from qualifying for state in the 50 freestyle and sophomore Colin Derdeyn inching ever closer to state in the 100 butterfly, where he is only two seconds away.

At Parkway West's pool, the Jr. Bills swam a hard meet against

the Longhorns, though they lost 103-85. Highlights of the meet included Favier's final in the 50 freestyle, fractions of a second off of State qualifications, along with the 200 free relay and the 400 free relay in which he missed State by only a few minutes.

Aside from Andrews' state time in the 200 IM, the other high point of the meet came in the first event, the 200 Medley Relay. The Jr. Bills found much speed in their relay, consisting of Derdeyn swimming butterfly, senior Richie Mayer swimming back stroke, Andrews swimming breast stroke, and Favier swimming freestyle. The first State qualifying time of the season at the very first meet of the year provided great motivation for the team.

After a very strong first two meets, the SwimBills are heavily motivated to keep working hard. Working from 4:00 to 6:45 every night, the Jr. Bills hope to keep adding to their roster of State swimmers as the season progresses, starting with the Marquette relays meet on Friday and Saturday.

Swimming so close against teams that are known for being some of the tougher opponents, the Jr. Bills are inspired to keep battling through the intense workouts and hope to keep hold of their MCC title from last season.

## Football captain conversation cube: CBC

	Who's it more fun to beat: CBC or DeSmet?	What's your favorite MCC school to play at besides SLUH?	Do you have any special superstitions (especially vs. CBC)?	Who's your favorite Blue Crew member?	What's your favorite pump up song?
Nick Granberry	CBC just because we haven't beaten them in 7 years.	DeSmet because their turf is really nice	No.	Colin Barrett easily.	"Cant Tell Me Nothing" by Kanye West
Matt Hinkebein	DeSmet since we haven't beat CBHS the past two years	DeSmet because they have the newest turf.	No.	Probably Sam Morris due to his physique.	"Call Me Maybe"
Alex Mackin	CBC will be more fun this year	The daycare known as Vi-anney because my dad played QB there.	Write "CZ" on a lot of my equipment in honor of Chris Zandstra.	Sam Morris 'cause I like to see him shirtless.	"God's Gonna Cut You Down" by Johnny Cash
Raymond Wingo	It feels good to beat both. But we haven't beat CBC in 6 or 7 years so I think CBC would feel better this year.	DeSmet.	Yes, I make sure I touch one of the signs in the locker room.	Cole Tarlas.	"Heart of A champion" and "The Beat of Zombie Nation."
Alec Abeln	CB 'nuff said.	CBC. Hinko and I played a bunch of games there in grade school. Kinda takes me back to those days.	Always really OCD about my tape. Specifically my spat (the tape over my shoes). I make Buha do it for me.	Is Lordo in blue crew?	"CBC Football" by Rob Hamilton. Hella catchy. "D-D-dalton doin work!" I love that.

To see map of tomorrow's cross country course, check the Prep News website.