

JV Football starts slow; looks to build along with new coaching staff

ANDREW NESTER AND LUKE VELTZ
REPORTERS

So far, the JV football season has been off to a rocky start. With a record of 1-1 against Gateway and Ladue. The St. Louis U. High JV football has not had the season they predicted so far.

SLUH beat Gateway 27-0 and lost to Ladue 17-0. The Jefferson City game was cancelled.

"Honestly, I think our biggest strength has been our courage against adversity; we don't have the greatest numbers right now but this team has the fight, the will to want to win more than prior groups I've been with," said head coach Teron Sutherland. "The team's weaknesses are mostly related to numbers and injuries setting them back."

Despite the slow start, Sutherland remains encouraged. He reaffirms that the

player's level of dedication in practice has nothing to do with their recent losses. They were having successful practices and getting quality reps through their scrimmages with varsity.

When asked what goals the team had for the rest of the season, Sutherland said, "The rest of the brand new coaching regime are looking forward to teaching the boys how to acclimate to a new system of the game, and preparing them for the next level—becoming better players and men."

One thing holding the JV back is a lot of players being moved up to varsity, which is a great thing intrinsically but hurts the talent on the JV roster.

"We're losing a lot of talented guys to varsity. Last year we only had three sophomores playing varsity football, now we have eight. However, the new coaching staff is do-

ing a great job.

"They bring more energy than the coaches from prior years and teach us not only lessons on football, but lessons on life as well," said junior quarterback Steven Mack, who looks forward to the rest of the season with a positive mindset and is determined to turn the rough start into a happy ending.

SLUH was supposed

to play De Smet on Sept. 11 at SLUH, but the game was turned into a freshman game where the team brought down seven sophomores to play against De Smet's freshman team. The JV team was not able to play due to lack of players and injuries.

SLUH's next game is at CBC Monday, Sept. 25.



art | Jackson DuCharme

Ball continues to roll for soccer; ranked 13th in the nation

(continued from page 9)

teams down the road," said Martel.

"Sometimes we need to refocus on the game," said Gremaud. "We can have fun, but our main focus must be the game."

With Martel's words, the Jr. Bills continued their high level of play. Early on, senior Will Rudder, the team's leading scorer, put up a goal for the team when he went bar down off an open shot.

Ten minutes later, junior Reid Horton scored his first goal of the season to give the Jr. Bills a 2-0 lead.

The Jr. Bills also had a strong offensive showing from junior forward Louis Vacca, who put up the final goal of the night after a Bulldog defender botched a clear off a corner straight into Vacca, who headed it into the net.

For the rest of the game, the Jr. Bills balled out defensively, allowing no shots on goal and keeping possession for most of the second half to coast to the 3-0 victory.

With these victories, the Jr. Bills had moved up to No. 13 in the nation and defended their No. 1 ranking in the state. However the Jr. Bills still have to battle through some tough squads in the CYC tournament as they will



Junior Louis Vacca against St. Mary's on Monday.

photo | Joe Hillmeyer

play in the semifinals this weekend. Possible matchups include rivals CBC or De Smet, or Webster Groves or Vianney.

"I feel excited about that, but the guys need to understand that there are 10 teams in this area that could be

ranked 13th in the country if the ball rolls the right way at certain times," said Martel. "We've been fortunate. We've created our own good will, but we need to understand that we're not heads above everyone else, and we need to keep playing hard."

The team's next game is today against Kirkwood at 6 p.m. at Soccer Park.

"Come out and watch the boys in blue and the best managers this side of the Mississippi," said senior manager Peter O'Malley.

XC uses cancellation for time trial; looks forward to Palatine and Hancock

MATTHEW QUINLAN
CORE STAFF

For many of the varsity runners, this will be the first time they race at Palatine and participate in a meet of this magnitude.

Due to concerns over the Stockley verdict last Friday, the cross country team's scheduled meet, the Paul Enke Cross Country Invitational hosted by Hazelwood Central High School at Sioux Passage Park, was cancelled.

Instead, the team elected to make a time trial contest between squads that were determined by the results of the Forest Park Cross Country Festival and practice workout groups. The teams had a little fun with the competition, with the names ranging from "Sluhpreme" to the basketball allusion "2kXC."

Junior Jack Buehring won the entire race, finishing with a time of 17:39, which was a personal record. Following Buehring were junior Charlie Perry and sophomore Joe Callahan, both of whom earned personal records. Callahan's time of 17:48 qualified him for a varsity letter in the program.

The cross country team is looking forward to racing at the Palatine and Hancock meets this Saturday.

The top 14 runners on the team will be travelling to Chicago to run at the Palatine Cross Country Invitational, where they will face competition from across the country and gain valuable travelling experience.

"It's an honor to be chosen to go because one of the main ideas of the trip is to give experience on what travelling to State is like," said junior Chris Staley. "The other guys going are a great group of guys and it's a very cohesive group."

"When I first heard I was guaranteed a spot, I was pumped," said Staley. "I think we are going to do very well at the meet, and we want to get top 10 as a team for varsity. I'm still really nervous because it's my first year running it, and it's a super-competitive meet."

The varsity runners are also hoping to work on their time spacing, something they had trouble with at the Festival.

"Where we lacked in the Festival was our one to five spread—in Granite City it was like 45 seconds, and it was about a 1:09 at the Festival—so bringing that gap back together," said head coach Joe Porter. "Our first three ran really well together, with Paul Burka, Reed Milnor, and Patrick Hetlage, we just have to get the rest of the guys to get back closer to it."

The rest of the cross country team will be participating in the 55th Annual Hancock Invitational at Jefferson Barracks Park.

"We're at 12 guys that have broken 18 minutes for 5K this year," said Porter. "When we start thinking about it that way that's incredibly deep, and it's nice for guys who don't have a chance at a varsity race unless we put them in something like Hancock."



art | Jackson DuCharme

ATHLETE

SPOTLIGHT

In his first time ever starting on defense, senior Anthony Freeman registered six tackles and one sack against the Jefferson City Jays in a 38-21 victory.

art | Ian Shocklee



Senior Anthony Freeman photo | Mrs. Kathy Chott