



PREP NEWS

HP

Historic day for varsity XC; shines against out-of-town competition



Senior Patrick Hetlage and junior Lucas Rackers leading the pack. photo | Mr. Jim Hetlage

BY PETER LABARGE
REPORTER

The St. Louis U. High cross country team traveled over 250 miles to race at the Palatine Invitational in the outskirts of Chicago last weekend. The varsity team finished fourth (the highest since 2014) and finished 7th in JV. West of the Mississippi, the Varsity 3 and the rest of the team ran at Arnold Park in what proved to be another successful day.

On Friday morning, the top 16 selected runners departed from SLUH and arrived hours later in Palatine, Ill.

After a practice run on the course, the team was able to judge it for the next morning. The course was more flat,

unlike the ones SLUH had been racing in the past few weeks. The usual strategy and style of the race also changed.

"We knew the style of the race was going to be different. It was much faster up front, especially in the first mile," said head coach Joe Porter.

On Saturday, the team raced its top seven in varsity and their remaining 8 in the JV race. Junior Adam Mittendorf was the one traveler not racing due to his recovery from a stress fracture. He still went on the trip to help with coaches and get out-of-town meet experience, as he will most likely be attending the state meet in Jefferson City in November.

In the three mile race, shorter than the usual 5K, SLUH's varsity was led by junior Lucas Rackers with a time of 15:17 (16th place) and followed by senior Patrick Hetlage (26th place). The other three scorers for varsity were junior Noah Scott (50th place), senior Reed Milnor (71st place), and junior Joe Callahan (73rd place). Senior Chris Staley and freshman Grant Brawley wrapped up the varsity in sixth and seventh for the team. The team had a season best 1-5 gap at 41.9 seconds, something that they stressed was an important factor to success in this meet.

"It was very encouraging to have a smaller gap in such a large meet. That's going to be a big key when it comes to beating teams in big, difficult meets," said Scott.

Another factor that the team stressed was the ability to find their teammates in the packs of runners.

"We had trouble at first finding each other, but we didn't panic. That was a big difference from last year. We were able to not panic, look around, and find each other in that middle mile, and really work together," said Scott.

In the JV race, sophomore Ryan Kramer led the SLUH pack and medaled, coming in 17th place. The other four scorers for the team were junior Peter Dillon, sophomore Daniel Hogan, sophomore Reid Jack-

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Another dominant meet for varsity swimming; new personal records

NICHOLAS DALAVIRAS AND
JOE FEDER
REPORTERS

The Swim and Dive Team took on the De Smet Invitational at the Saint Peter's Rec Plex last Saturday with tremendous results, snatching 17 of the 36 available medals. Just past the halfway point of their season, the Junior Swimbills are churning through their toughest weeks of training, and the results from the Rec Plex reflect the hard work of the squad.

With competition from all over the state, ranging from fellow Jesuit high school Rockhurst of Kansas City to the reigning state champion team, Rock Bridge of Columbia, the De Smet Invitational gave the Junior Bills some formidable opponents, but this year,

SLUH dominated the leaderboard from the start.

The meet began with a bang as the 200 Medley Relay team of freshman Cooper Scharff and juniors Evan Lu, Josh Brown, and Andrew Zimmerman lowered their season best time by nearly five seconds to win the event with a 1:41.95, the second fastest time in the state this season.

Senior captains Daniel Fink and Will Slatin took third and fifth places in the 200 Freestyle respectively, and both shaved a little over a second off their season bests in the process. In the next event, the 200 Individual Medley, Scharff, Brown, and senior Garrett Baldes dominated with new personal best times on the season. Scharff won the event, going under 2:00 for the first time

this season, good enough for the fourth fastest time in the state this year, and Brown and Baldes battled each other until the end, finishing within half of a second of one another to take third and fourth place.

Next, senior captain Joe Feder won the 50 Freestyle with the second fastest time in the state this season and Zimmerman landed in fifth place, edging his time down to 23.21 seconds, just half a second off of the state cut. After a ten minute break in the meet where diving would normally be, Brown and freshman Jonas Hostetler charged through the 100 Butterfly and obliterated their previous season bests to take first and second place and get their first individual state qualifications of the

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USMC visits SLUH for annual Great American Rival Series vs. CBC



Senior Nick Lang receiving his Rivalry scholar scholarship. photo | Mr. Jim Bruno

BY BRAD PIKE
STAFF

While many St. Louis U. High students entered the Si Commons for lunch on Thursday, September 20, members of the United States Marine Corps greeted them with a chin-up challenge in support of the Great American Rivalry Series and their sponsorship of the football match on the following Friday between the Jr. Bills and the CBC Cadets.

The Great American Rivalry Series is an organization, founded in 2004, that seeks out the most highly-touted rivalries in high school football all over America in order to sponsor the matchup between the squads. The United States Marine Corps also helps sponsor the pregame festivities, more specifically, the chin-up challenge. As one might guess, it is a competition within the school community to see who can do the most chin-ups. The only thing that stood between a student participating was their lunch waiting on their table and a simple waiver. However,

many students were on the fence about competing in the challenge, including senior Tim Bertelsman who eventually won the competition.

"I wasn't going to originally go up there and do it, but Nathan Pawlow suggested I should," said Bertelsman, who topped out at a record 21 chin-ups. Encouragement from peers was a common theme in participants, as senior Martin Jaskiewicz had a similar approach to the contest.

"Zach Bievenue was on the fence about going up, so I said 'if you go up, I'll go,' and so we both went up (to compete)," said Jaskiewicz, who later finished in a close second behind Bertelsman with 18 chin-ups. He was also encouraged by the local marines who were present at the challenge.

"They kept telling me that there were cookies on the top of the bar and good-looking girls on top of the bar to get up there," said Jaskiewicz.

The encouragement from peers did not end at the decision to participate, but contin-

ued throughout the students eating-hours.

"I saw (Marty) up there, and we were all cheering him on and throwing food, it was pretty wild over at our table," said senior Nick Dendrinelis.

"We were hungry so we were eating, but on a tertiary level we would chant and cheer kids on," said senior Liam Gallagher.

All participants were awarded a Marines T-shirt for their participation in the competition.

Following the pregame festivities, the main event of the Series commenced on Friday before the Jr. Bills took on the Cadets at CBC. As part of the sponsorship of the game, the organization has a special ceremony before the game to acknowledge one player from each team as the recipient of the Rivalry Scholar Student-Athlete Scholarship Award. SLUH chose senior Nick Lang to receive this award, based on several factors including GPA.

"It means that all my late nights of doing homework after practice are worth it," said Lang. "It was a satisfying feeling receiving the award in front of my friends and family before the game."

SLUH Athletic Director Chris Muskopf is considering hosting an event at SLUH involving the Great American Rivalry Series against CBC or perhaps another opponent.

"I'd have to look and see because, to me, CBC stands out as probably the rival if we were to do that," said Muskopf. "I'd like to do more of those kinds of things, but I don't know if affiliating with the Rivalry Series is always our best option. I like their premise, but I just don't know if maybe we could do these types of things on our own and make it a little bit more us."

W or L? Miscalculating highlights teacher vs. student basketball game



Senior Paul Reddy scoring a layup on Dr. David Callon. photo | John Hilker

JIMMY STANLEY
REPORTER

It was the day of the big game, when all through the town / Not a freshman was stirring, there wasn't even a sound / The jerseys were hung by the hoop with care / In hopes that Paul Reddy soon would be there / The seniors put on their santa hats, ready to be fed / While visions of Kesterson getting crossed danced in their heads / When out on the court there arose such a clatter / Erwin Claggett couldn't have looked sadder / He missed the winning shot,

such a tragic disgrace / and student cheers erupted all over the place.

This past week marked Spirit Week, and what shouts school pride more than a good ole fashioned game of hoops between the teachers and a bunch of sweaty 18-year olds in ugly sweaters? STUCO declared Wednesday to be a Christmas theme day, so the Christmas Club filled the hands of onlooking students with cups of free hot cocoa while the students who were watching the big game rocked their Santa hats.

Saint Louis U. High seniors Brad Pike, Matthew Thibodeau, Jon Ferrari, Charlie Steenberge, Will Browdy, Will Webster, Paul Reddy, Kolin King, Handley Hicks, Tim Zhang and Frank Pellegrini all joined forces to combat the teachers.

The teachers, led by Dan "blocked LeBron" Schuler, took on the forces of the strong senior roster with faculty members Megan Menne, Jonathan Dickmann, Bradley Mueller, Erwin Claggett, Justin Seaton, Yude Huang,

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Success for XC across the board

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son, and sophomore Hayden Zenor. Freshmen Baker Pashua and Sean Kellogg were the sixth and seventh men respectively for JV.

"I was able to get out in the top 20 early on, and didn't settle in, and that allowed me to have a pretty good race," said Kramer. "What was impressive was that everyone on the team got a PR or season best, and that really speaks to how good of a day it was for the team."

While their teammates were in Palatine, the rest of the SLUH team raced at the Ed White Warrior Invitational at Arnold City Park. Despite racing a Varsity 3 with their 17-23 runners, SLUH finished in second place, behind only St. Francis Borgia. Senior Charlie Perry finished first for SLUH and medaled fifth overall. Juniors Sirius Song (eighth place) and Garrett Seal (10th place) medaled for SLUH as well.

In the race, SLUH showed off their depth while competing against rival De Smet.

"Anytime you take 16 guys out of town, and go and beat MCC rivals in a varsity race, you have to feel really good about how the guys competed. It really showed off the depth of our program to be able to do that," said Porter.

In the JV race, SLUH finished in second place and medaled all of their top five scorers. In sixth place, junior Peter LaBarge was the first to finish for SLUH, followed by senior Ben Poag (seventh place),

sophomore Noah Apprill-Sokol (eighth place), sophomore Henry Bourneuf (ninth place), and senior Carlo Pitti (11th place).

"We had a great race. We were able to compete and stick together in the harder parts of the race," said Apprill-Sokol.

The freshman team won their race, led by a second place finish from Justin Glass, with several teammates following closely behind. Eli Dermalan (sixth), Joe LaBarge (seventh), and Graham Sanfilippo (eighth), finished in rapid succession, and Sam Kean rounded out the medalists in 13th place.

This weekend, the team will be competing in the Parkway West Dale Shepherd Invitational in Wildwood against some top local competition from Kirkwood, Rock Bridge, Lafayette, and Parkway West.

Coming off a great week last week, the team hopes to continue its success and make a statement against some of these top teams. In order to compete in meets like this, they must continue to focus on their goals during practice.

"We ran some really fast and successful times at Fox and Palatine. When you run fast times like that, you think you've accomplished what you want to accomplish this year," said Porter. "We have to go back and continue to improve so we are running our best races at Conference, Findley, and State."

Soccer demolishes Belleville West; struggles against Oakville and Webster Groves

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In the second half, the Jr. Bills came close with many more chances. With a strong defense and junior goalie Peter Herrmann stopping the attacks from Eureka, the boys held the Wildcats to one goal. However, the offense could not get the ball in the back of the net, ending the game in a 1-0 loss.

"We knew that we started off the game badly and because of that we put ourselves in a bad situation to win the game, so I think that everyone was pretty disappointed," said Neuwirth. "However, I also think that it left everyone determined to not let it happen again."

The Jr. Bills slept well over the weekend and were ready to fight in their opening game of the CYC Tournament against Belleville West, back on home

back of the net one more time to make the score 4-0, a score that the team would take to the end of the game.

"I was pumped the team got the win," said Klostermann. "It was really cool scoring my first varsity goals. Ethan Joly and Jacob Hammond gave me great passes to set up both goals."

The faceoff against Belleville West was the first game of the season where the Jr. Bills scored more than one goal in a regulation victory, and their first real blowout win.

"With the season so far of getting close and not getting the goal, I felt good that they had a game where they could feel good and play and score and breathe a little bit," said O'Connell. "I hope this week convinces them even more that we're a good team and that it doesn't have to fall on just

"I did feel (the own goal) kind of took the wind out of us again for about a 10-minute or 15-minute period after that goal," said O'Connell. "Some heads were dropping and I thought 'oh no, this is happening again,' but I thought we made a couple of changes and some of the changes brought a different energy, and we were able to combine well and got a goal."

"During the game, we said 'come on, we can turn this thing around,' and Charles Neuwirth stepped up and scored with a great pass from Jacob Hammond," said Klostermann.

Oakville was more aggressive than SLUH and had some opportunities, but they were unable to finish. SLUH responded with opportunities of their own through the half, but goals were

Groves player, who managed to place a header perfectly to give them the lead. The Jr. Bills were unable to respond to the goal and finished off a poor offensive performance scoreless, leaving the final score a disappointing 1-0. However, the team sees ways they can improve the offense.

"Offensive issues definitely are not a new problem to us," said Greason. "We've always had trouble finishing our chances as well as creating good chances in our opponents' half of the field. Against Webster in particular we weren't able to connect good passes through to the attackers and, when we did, it was always in very wide areas on the field. We were never able to take the ball up the gut and pass through their defensive lines in the middle of the field. We really need to focus on that and breaking defenses with creative runs through their lines and I believe we will be a lot more successful in the future."

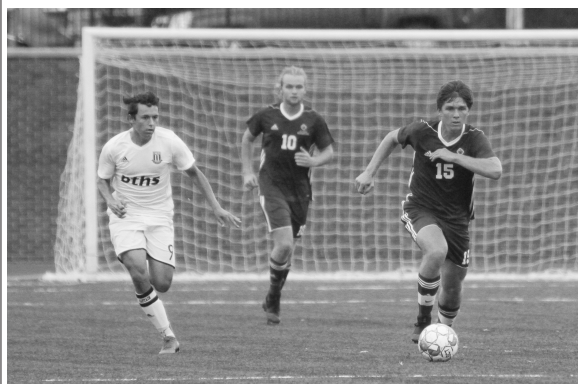
Despite the losses towards the end of the week, the Jr. Bills did a much better job of improving their offensive attack. The new style of play has worked with more shots and goals being scored.

"We're attacking much better, they're winning more balls in the midfield. I think that's key to any team's success, but it's something we weren't great at early in these last couple games," said O'Connell. "They're trying to possess it more."

Along with that, O'Connell sees the team working together well—a goal that the team has been working on since the beginning of the season.

"Hopefully this becomes a habit—a culture or mentality that these guys have—that they believe they can play and that they embrace the style that we're trying to play," said O'Connell. "The effort is still there, there seems to be more constructive talking amongst the backs and the midfielders, there seems to be some joy when we start scoring. I do think they're building towards where we want to go."

SLUH hopes to bounce back from their losses in two games next week. They play Lindbergh on Oct. 1 at 6:00 p.m. at Lindbergh High School, then they head over to CBC on Oct. 2 to play CBC at 7:00 p.m.



Senior Alex Johnson against Belleville West.

photo | Ben Andrews

turf.

The team opened up the scoring quickly when Charles Neuwirth sent a cross to Ethan Joly, who finished with a well-placed header to make the score 1-0.

Less than 30 seconds later, senior Reid Horton sent a perfect ball to senior Louis Vacca, who managed to put the ball away, giving the team an early 2-0 lead in no time. The boys were hungry, and junior Ryan Klostermann gave them something to chew on with a rip to put the squad up 3-0 before the half was over.

"We were able to possess the ball more and we generated a lot of shots," said Klostermann.

The second half started off with a little less action, but Klostermann decided that he wanted another and put the ball in the

one or two guys and that there's a lot of pieces out there and that if we put the pieces together, we can score against some pretty decent teams."

The team hoped to keep the fire strong against Oakville in their second game of the CYC Tournament.

The game started with SLUH in possession of the ball for a majority of the time, but they failed to put the ball away, despite multiple opportunities. The momentum began to slightly tip in the other direction, and an unfortunate cross lead to a deflection by SLUH into their own goal, giving the Oakville team a 1-0 lead. Thankfully, Charles Neuwirth came in clutch in the last seven minutes of the first half with a goal sent to the bottom left corner, making the score 1-1 going into half.

as elusive as ever for the Jr. Bills as they were unable to put any points on the board. Oakville was able to put out the flame with a goal with ten minutes left, ending the game with final score of 2-1.

"We were bummed for the loss, but know we can use this as extra motivation for the road to districts," said Klostermann.

The drought only continued as the team entered Wednesday's game against Webster Groves in their final game of the CYC Tournament.

The game started slow, and the boys had especially few scoring opportunities. The half continued to be uneventful and the score was 0-0 entering the second.

Defense ruled through the game, until a well-hit ball bounced right to a Webster

Underclassmen Briefs

B Football (2-3)

9/24 - CBC
SLUH 0 0 7 14 7 F:28
CBC 7 0 7 7 0 F:21
Luke Johnston: 3 pass TD, 1 rush TD
Jack McClelland: 2 TD rec
Danny O'Keefe: 3 sacks

C Soccer (8-1-2)

9/19 - Bayless
SLUH 3 1 F:4
Bayless 0 1 F:1
Goals: Roarke Unrau (1), Connor McCullar (1)

9/24 - Mehlville

SLUH 1 2 F:3
Mehlville 0 1 F:1
Goals: Owen Rittenhouse (1), Caleb Forthaus (1), Connor McCullar (1)

9/25 - CBC

SLUH 0 2 F:2
CBC 0 1 F:1
Goals: Connor McCullar (1), Roarke Unrau (1)

B Soccer (8-2-2)

9/20 - Vianney
SLUH 2 1 F:3
Vianney 0 0 F:0
Goals: Jonny Grimes (3)

9/21 - Eureka

SLUH 0 2 F:2
Eureka 0 0 F:0
Goals: Harrison Beardsley (2)

9/24 - Mehlville

SLUH 1 0 F:1
Mehlville 0 0 F:0
Goals: Jonny Grimes (1)

9/25 - Marquette

SLUH 2 0 F:2
Marquette 0 0 F:0
Goals: Jack Rudder (1), Caz Magruder (1)

JV Soccer (4-4)

9/19 - Festus
SLUH 7 3 F:10
Festus 0 0 F:0
Goals: Austin Bievenue (1), Ben Gremaud (2), Juan Hernandez (2), Amar Mujezinovic (1), Andy Mujezinovic (1), Ben Thomas (1), Thomas Reilly (1), Kyle Catalano (1)

9/20 - Cape Central

SLUH 0 1 F:1
Cape Central 1 1 F:2
Goals: Amar Mujezinovic (1)

9/22 Frederick Town

SLUH 3 3 F:6
Frederick Town 1 0 F:1
Goals: Ben Witte (1), Austin Bievenue (1), Ben Gremaud (1), Petra Randrianasolo (1), Amar Mujezinovic (1), Juan Hernandez (1)

—compiled by Jimmy Stanley and Jared Thornberry

Varsity football offense fades in second half; B-team shows hope for future

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blowout. Even with primarily running plays, the Cadets were still able to get past SLUH's offense each and every time and either score a touchdown or field goal. Near the end of the game, their second and third string units came on to finish.

SLUH's offense was unsuccessful in both the running game and the passing game. CBC's cornerbacks were too good for the Jr. Bills, with most passes being knocked away from the intended receiver. And their inside defensive unit, made up of linemen and linebackers, kept Porter and the rest of the corps of running backs from advancing more than a few yards

at a time. Porter ended up with 53 rushing yards and around 75 in receiving. For the season, he has 580 yards on 107 carries, averaging out to a respectable 5.4 yards per rush. He mentioned that a key factor in his running game last week was pushing through the gap.

"What helped the running game was just hitting the hole because it would close as fast as it opened," said Porter.

Although the varsity team fell last week, the younger Jr. Bills pulled off an impressive victory against the younger Cadets last Monday.

The B-team, composed of players from the freshmen and sophomore classes, defeated

CBC 28-21 at SLUH. Down 21-7 at halftime, the Jr. Bills responded by scoring three touchdowns in a row and won in overtime, all while containing the Cadets' offense. They improved to 2-3 on the season with the victory.

Tonight, the varsity team plays the St. John Vianney Griffins at SLUH at 7 p.m. The Griffins are 4-1 and beat De Smet last week. Last year, they advanced to the state quarterfinal. Next Friday, the Jr. Bills compete against Chaminade to wrap up their Metro Catholic Conference (MCC) portion of the schedule.

"We have to eliminate turnovers," said Jones. "We have

to eliminate giving up explosion plays, and we have to score in the green zone," (inside the opponent's 30-yard line).

Jones mentioned a couple of improvements for the defensive core on improving pass coverage for tonight's game.

"We are working on making sure our defensive line and our linebackers and defensive backs are executing their assignments," Jones said.

The B-team plays Vianney on Monday Oct. 1, and Chaminade on Monday, Oct. 8. Jones was optimistic for their prospects.

"The B-team is playing well," said Jones. "The future is very bright."