

# Defeat to De Smet ends Soccer's 11-game streak with no losses

BY MICHAEL TROWER  
STAFF

The soccer team continued its hot streak against Eureka on Saturday, Oct. 12, winning 3-0. St. Louis U. High followed with a 2-1 win in PKs against Lindbergh at home on Friday, Oct. 18. However, their 11-game streak with no losses (ten wins and one tie) ended with a 3-0 loss against De Smet last Saturday.

Coming off of the triumphant win against CBC, SLUH looked to keep their momentum going against a solid Eureka team. Only 23 minutes in to the game, senior Charles Neuwirth crossed the ball into the six-yard box, where it deflected off of the goalie, a defender, and the crossbar before senior Fetra Randrianasolo pounced and finished it for a 1-0 lead going all the way to halftime.

"Anything can happen when the ball is inside the box like that," said Randrianasolo. "It wasn't pretty, but I finished and that's all that matters."

Only ten minutes after the second half began, Neuwirth sliced through two defenders and hit a left-footed missile that found paydirt for a 2-0 lead.

Eureka was able to keep the pressure on when they had a free kick from 20 yards midway through the

second half. The shot went sailing towards the top corner, but Herrmann was able to snag it and keep the game at a 2-0 SLUH lead.

With only four minutes left, senior Andy Mujezinovic scored another goal, assisted by Neuwirth, to tie the game at a 3-0 lead. SLUH went on to win 3-0 and continued their nine game win streak. The seniors impressed in this game most, especially Neuwirth, who contributed to all three goals and remains the leader of the midfield.

Senior goalie Peter Herrmann was recognized for going 13 consecutive halves without giving up a goal by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, being named one of their athletes of the week. The scoreless string dated back to Sept. 24 against Marquette, where he shut them out 1-0.

"It's a great feeling, and I'm very thankful that I was honored," said Herrmann. "My defense should get a lot of credit too because they made my job easy to keep getting clean slates."

The next game against Lindbergh at SLUH was postponed from Monday, Oct. 14 to Friday, Oct. 18. This change didn't slow down SLUH as they came out buzzing in the first half. Only 12 minutes in, senior

Juric dinged the crossbar, and SLUH was knocking on the door early. Juric had another wonderful chance inside the box, but the Lindbergh keeper denied and the score 0-0.

Late into the half, chaos ensued when Herrmann committed larceny from a point-blank shot to keep the score even. In less than three minutes, SLUH got a penalty kick and Neuwirth kept his hot stretch going when he buried it into the lower corner for a 1-0 SLUH lead going into halftime.

"We believe in what we're doing right now," said head coach Bob O'Connell. "I've really enjoyed being with these guys throughout the season."

SLUH came out blazing in the second half with three shots on goal within the first three minutes. That flame seemed to burn out, however, as Lindbergh got on the board tying the game 1-1, ending Herrmann's incredible streak at 14 straight halves scoreless. Regulation ended and after two overtimes, there was another showdown in penalty kicks.

The hero of the game was senior Ryan Taaffe, as he scored the winning kick, just like he did against CBC. Only this time he had a new motivation.

"I was thinking of my brother the entire game and

when Charles (Neuwirth) pulled me aside, telling me that Collin was looking down on me," said Taaffe. "I didn't think about the shot at all, I thought of my brother."

"I knew he was going to score, no way was he going to miss, with Collin looking down on him," said Neuwirth. "It was such an unbelievable moment. Words can't describe what happened."

Taaffe's strike made penalty kicks 4-2, making the final score a 2-1 SLUH win, and improving their record to 15-4-1.

SLUH played De Smet the next day and lost 3-0, ending SLUH's streak, that ironically started after losing to De Smet 3-0 in the CBC Tournament all the way back on Sept. 19.

"We're going to stick to the way we've been playing and the way we've been training," said O'Connell. "Yeah we were beaten by a better team on that day, but I think that in two or three weeks we will see them again and bring our game."

SLUH continues in their journey with two more regular season games against St. Dominic for Senior Night and Fort Zumwalt West.

# XC keeps MCC title; takes silver at Borgia

BY MITCHELL BOOHER AND  
PETER LABARGE  
STAFF

The Metro Catholic Conference is, no matter the sport, one of the strongest in the state. For the past 15 years, the Jr. Billians have been on the top of the MCC, pulling off a perfect 15-point victory the past two years, and on Oct. 10, the result was no different.

Coming off a big win at the Dale Shepherd Invitational the weekend before, the varsity squad looked to roll into the postseason with more confidence. The plan from the very beginning was a perfect score.

From the jump of the gun, the Jr. Bills put themselves in a great position. Through the first mile, seniors Adam Mittendorf, Lucas Rackers, and Noah Scott and sophomore Grant Brawley packed up in the front, with seniors Peter Dillon and Joe Calahan and junior Hayden Zenor right behind.

"Coach (Porter) told us to race with confidence, and while our first mile was a little timid, I felt I was able to switch in as we entered the final phase of the race," said Dillon.

Rackers and Scott pulled into a lead with Mittendorf and Brawley a few seconds behind. Everything changed in the last mile. Mittendorf (1st, 16:53) came storming back to the front, and he closed well on the uphill finish to take a four second victory over Rackers (2nd, 16:57) and claim the individual conference championship.

"It was a truly amazing experience to win MCCs, and I think we did a great job re-

sponding when the race did not go exactly how we thought it would," said Mittendorf.

Brawley (3rd, 17:01) and Scott (4th 17:05) came through the chute next. Dillon (5th, 17:09) ran an aggressive last mile to secure the third consecutive perfect score and the 16th consecutive MCC title.

Callahan (7th, 17:17) and Zenor (11th, 17:46) rounded out the overwhelming victory. To go along with the team title, all seven runners earned all-conference honors.

"Coming into this meet we wanted a big program day," said coach Joe Porter. "To have six of seven first team all-conference and to win with a perfect score was a complete success. As we get into do or die races with districts, sectionals, and state, this is nothing but a positive."

Racing on the following Tuesday, SLUH runners took the first 11 places and 23 of the 30 medals on their way to a perfect score finish. Junior Ryan Kramer (1st, 17:13) defended his title as MCC JV champion, separating himself from the field. Sophomore Baker Pashea (2nd, 18:09) came flying in, and around 15 seconds later, junior Reid Jackson (3rd, 18:25) and sophomore Justin Glass (4th, 18:26) finished. Then, senior Sirius Song finished (5th, 18:37) to wrap up the scoring five.

The freshmen continued SLUH's success with both first place individual and team finishes. Wyatt Seal (1st, 18:38) battled with CBC throughout the race, but ultimately, Seal finished as MCC freshman champion.

Tim Greiner (3rd, 18:54) and

Carter Lowe (4th, 18:57) followed about 15 seconds behind Seal. Tyler Barks (6th, 19:16) and Lucas Rammacher (8th, 19:54) ran strong races to wrap SLUH's scoring with only 22 points, 37 fewer than second place CBC.

Then, last Saturday, while the varsity headed to Columbia, Mo., the rest of the team made the treacherous journey to Washington, Mo. for the Borgia Invitational at Big Driver Golf Course. The course contains a few intimidating hills but can be fast when runners take advantage of downhill, and that is the idea SLUH stressed.

With the top seven running the state course, younger runners got experience in the varsity race and took advantage with an impressive second place team finish. The team packed together as a unit in the congested race. The team's small 33-second one to five gap assisted them in the strong performance. Sophomore Baker Pashea (15th, 17:38) led the way for SLUH. Junior Reid Jackson (24th, 17:59) came in next to earn a second varsity medal. Sophomore Joe LaBarge (28th, 18:03) followed behind Jackson, and senior Sirius Song (34th, 18:10) and junior Sandy LeGrand (35th, 18:11) finished next to wrap up the scoring five with a total score of 126, 12 points behind the winner, Steelville. Freshman Wyatt Seal (48th, 18:20) and sophomore Justin Glass (58th, 18:38) wrapped up the race for SLUH.

Next up, JV finished in first place, led by some runners stepping up. From the gun, senior Mitchell Booher (3rd, 18:29) and sophomore Graham Sanfilippo

(4th, 18:32) got out towards the front and stayed there. Senior Peter LaBarge (6th, 18:41) and sophomore Francis Alford (7th, 18:47) quickly followed, and senior Matt Friedrichs (12th, 18:55) wrapped up the scorers for JV with only 27 points, 25 points ahead of second place Kirkwood.

The freshmen finished strong Borgia with a 30-point first place team finish. Tim Greiner (3rd, 18:23) and Carter Lowe (4th, 18:47) led the way for the team. Will Riggan (6th, 18:56) followed. Nolan Meara (8th, 19:09) and Tyler Barks (9th, 19:19) wrapped up the scorers.

"The fact that we held out our top nine guys and still took second in the varsity and won both freshman and JV is a testament to our program as a whole," said Porter.

Later today, the Jr. Bills will set out to race at the Clayton Invitational. This being Senior Night, SLUH will send primarily seniors to the line in both the varsity and JV races, hoping to give them one more chance to PR. The Jr. Bills have their eyes on top team finishes in both races.

With State only two weeks away, SLUH must place in the top four tomorrow and at sectionals the following week to get a shot at a state title. They will depart for Jackson, Mo. later today and acclimate to the course. Webster Groves, Lindbergh, and Jackson High are three of 12 district foes, but SLUH hopes to make a statement to the rest of Missouri that the Jr. Bills are ready to play.

# Hockey beats Oakville; upset by Vianney in semis

BY JULIEN JENSEN  
REPORTER

The St. Louis U. High varsity hockey team had an up and down past two weeks. They beat Oakville 5-1 on Oct. 15 to keep their hot start to the season going. However, on Tuesday, the Jr. Bills lost to Vianney 3-0 in the semifinals of the Top Hat Tournament.

The Jr. Bills' stellar play in the first few games of the Top Hat Tournament put them in the quarterfinal game against the Oakville Tigers.

The Jr. Bills had opportunities on offense. The moments were fleeting, but they made the most of them. SLUH managed to get the puck into Oakville's zone, getting multiple shots on goal. Finally, they struck when sophomore John Loretta sent a pass to fellow sophomore Ryan Spinner, who put the puck in the back of the net, giving the Jr. Bills a 1-0 lead.

Nobody scored for the rest of the first period. Throughout the period Oakville had managed to put up more shots on goal, only to be stopped by senior goalie Cole Jansky's dominant play.

The Jr. Bills remained aggressive on offense after the first goal. They set up shop in Oakville's zone early in the second, putting up a rally of shots similar to those in the first. Both sequences ended similarly. Junior Matt Warnecke received the puck after another missed shot by SLUH, shuttled a wonderful pass to senior Patrick Simonic on the right side, who whacked the puck right past the goalie into the top corner of the net.

The goal gave the SLUH a 2-0 lead and cemented the strong offensive connection between Warnecke and Simonic that has developed early in the season.

The offense settled down a bit after that with Oakville getting some opportunities but try and chip away at the Jr. Bill lead. These efforts were futile due to the play of senior Jack

Hazelton, who seemed to be everywhere on defense. When the Tigers were able to get a good shot on goal, Jansky was there to stop it.

The good play on defense transitioned to good offense for the Jr. Bills. Off a steal, the puck was shuttled to senior Alex Beville, who quickly got the puck into Oakville's zone. Beville danced around three defenders, then found senior Nolan Meyer, who got the puck past the goalie for his first goal of the year, giving the Jr. Bills a 3-0 lead to end the second period.

The third period saw the Jr. Bills continue their domination. Oakville still couldn't get a solid shot on goal, and the offense was able to stay aggressive.

Midway through the third period, Warnecke and Simonic showed off their connection again. SLUH had the puck in Oakville's side of the ice again. Warnecke dished a cheeky pass to Simonic who posted in the puck. The goal gave the Jr. Bills a 4-0 lead.

Tensions started to flare in the third after a dispute on the ice led to a suspension of a SLUH player for the rest of the game and the next game. Oakville took advantage of the power play, getting a nifty shot past Jansky.

In the waning minutes of the third, SLUH got another penalty, giving Oakville a 6-on-3 power play after they pulled their goalie. Those three SLUH players along with Jansky didn't allow a goal in and even got an empty net goal off of a clear.

The game ended with SLUH winning 5-1, punching their ticket into the semifinals against MCC rival Vianney.

The game opened once again with both teams playing equally well. SLUH's offense was getting opportunities where they could, but couldn't finish in the net. On the other side of the ice, the

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# Underclassman Briefs

## JV Soccer (8-5-3)

10/19-Hazelwood West (SLRS Tournament)

SLUH 5 4 9  
Hazelwood 1 0 1  
Goals: Michael Hiblico (3), Dominic Pnciroli (2), Camilo Hernandez (2), Jack Rudder, Theo Stephens

## 10/21-De Smet

(SLRS Tournament)

SLUH 0 0 0

De Smet 0 1 1

## B Soccer (12-6-1)

10/19-De Smet

SLUH 0 2 2  
De Smet 0 0 0

Goals: Will Broun, Roark Unrau

10/22-Soldan

SLUH 4 0 4  
Soldan 1 2 3

Goals: Will Broun (2), Tim Thouvenot, Lukas Hammond

## C Soccer (19-0-2)

10/17-De Smet

SLUH 4 2 6  
De Smet 0 1 1

Goals: Joseph Olascoaga (4), Miguel Ituarte, Jack Hulet

10/19-John Burroughs

(CBC Tournament)

SLUH 1 1 2  
John Burroughs 0 0 0

Goals: Kevin Conney (2)

10/21-Chaminade

(CBC Tournament)

SLUH 0 0 1  
Chaminade 0 0 0

(6-5 in PK's)

## B Football (3-5)

10/21-Trinity

SLUH 0 0 0 0 0  
Trinity 8 6 14 6 34

compiled by: Louis Cornett