

SPORTS



'Jay runners are movin' on

By JANE DOWNING

After posting an opening meet first place finish in the Park Hill Invitational, the Liberty boys' cross country team went on to lengthen their record to 2-0 by romping past Winnetonka and Hickman Mills in a home tri-meet Sept. 11.

The Blue Jays easily won both of their meets by point spreads of 22 and 36.

At Park Hill, Liberty outdistanced 15 other teams including Southwest and Blue Springs, who placed second and third respectively.

"I knew we were strong, and at the right point in our workouts to take the Invitational," said first-year coach Tim Nixon.

The long strenuous workouts since mid-August seem to be paying off as the 'Jays' easily swept their tri-meet and place six runners in the top 10 out of 25 run-

ners.

Leading the way for Liberty was junior Tony Deal, who turned in a 13:54.7 clocking in the 2.7-mile course, capturing the first place finish. Deal also was the first man across at the Park Hill meet with a respectable fourth place score.

Following right behind Deal in the home meet was Winnetonka's Steve Wilson, with a time of 14:09, good enough for a second place finish. The next group of competitors to file through the chute were the Jays senior crew of Steve Kirwan, 14:23; Jeff Waechter, 14:27, and Larry Henderson, also breaking the tape with a 14:27 time. Hickman Mills slipped in a sixth place finisher while Vince Weathers, a junior rounded out the scoring for the Jays with a seventh place score and a time of 14:37.

"The boys deserve all the

credit, they've been working really hard. Most of them are seniors and have been wanting to win big since sophomores," said a very happy Nixon.

The Jays coming off a productive year last year by winning the conference title, look toward the future with open arms.

"Since the first day the team and I met we set our goals high. The won the conference title last year and I'm sure they can repeat this year," commented the new coach. "Our game plan for this season is to peak at the regional meet. These guys are working hard and have great attitudes; they deserve to run in the state meet."

Circumstances could have been awkward for the upcoming season when the team learned that their coach for eight seasons was



VICTORY MEDAL AND KISS
Runner Tony Lehr won honors



TIM NIXON
Blue Jays' cross country coach

Hampered by injuries, eligibility

Aggressive squad has promise

By JANE DOWNING

Hampered by ailments and ineligibility of almost one third of her players, Dee Mallams' Liberty Blue Jays girls' tennis team dropped their season opener to Oak Park, Sept. 10.

The match which ended in a 1-4 decision for the Northmen, might have easily gone the other way providing Liberty being in full force.

"We should have a lot

more depth this year than last," commented the Blue Jay leader. "We have four girls back at school on the courts trying to get their 14 required practices and another one sitting out because of bursitis."

The Blue Jays, who finished second in conference play last year, are awaiting the return of their number one player, Beth Howard, who is out indefinitely with shoulder problems.

"It's really hard to sit back and watch the other girls play," said a disgruntled Howard. "I hope to get back in the game later this week."

This year's squad boasts six returning lettermen and a covey of new younger players, 16 in all.

"With the returners from last year's squad and the new girls, I feel we can send the conference title this year," said Ms. Mallams.

In the Oak Park match, the only varsity win came from the number one player, sophomore Holly Burton. Burton easily downed Teresa Daily, 6-2, 6-2.

Playing number two singles was senior Pam Silvey, who lost to Terrie Handley in straight sets, 1-6, 1-6.

Senior Kim Cracraft put forth quite a struggle in the first set of her number three singles match only to suffer a 5-7 defeat to Helen Crump. Cracraft fell behind early in the second set to round out the set with a 1-6 score.

The doubles competition proved to be quite a show. Number one play combined Burton and Silvey of Liberty against Daily and Handley of Oak Park. The match went three sets, the first giving the Northmen the advantage, 4-6. The Blue Jays picking up considerably in the second set won handily 6-3. After an early see-saw battle in third set, the Northmen

pulled out and took the match with a decisive 3-6 tally.

The competition in the number two doubles seemed to be going in the same direction as Cracraft and Nancy Hopkins teamed up against Oak Parks' Crump and Sharon Snowden. The score changed hands throughout the first set until the Northmen pulled out a 5-7 decision.

In the second set, Oak Park took charge and held an early 9-3 lead. The Blue Jays rallied back to within two, 3-5. The rally fell short with the Northmen winning the set and the match with a final set score of 3-5.

The girls will go on to finish out the week with matches against Excelsior Springs and hosting their first home meet with Center. This week will match St. Teresa's and last year's conference champs, North Kansas City against the Blue Jays.

The Blue Jay Girls tennis

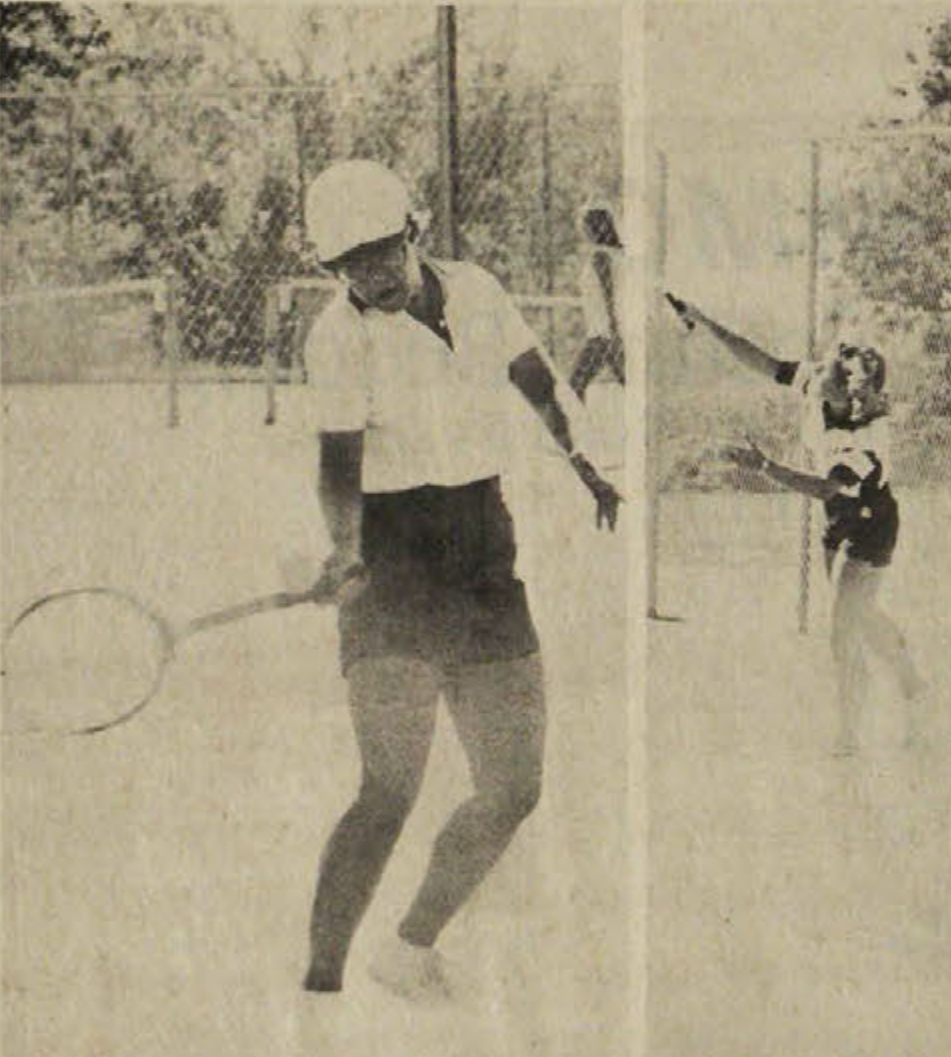
squad will host St. Mary's High School at Bennett Park Monday September 24 at 3:15. The team will travel to Belton on Tuesday for a conference match with the Pirates.

The ladies enter the week's schedule hot off the heels of two exciting conference wins over Excelsior Springs and Center.

Liberty edged both rivals by scores of 3-2.

The closeness of the match-ups were alluded to by Coach Dee Mallams: "It sure will be interesting matches when we play them again on their courts," she said.

In Junior Varsity action Amy Rock and Heidi Prather showed promise as the Blue Jays lost to both Excelsior Springs and Oak Park. In Thursdays action Amy and Heidi both won their singles matches and Nancy Hopkins and Beth Jones clinched the 3-2 victory by winning their doubles match.



BLUE JAY TENNIS STARS AT WORK
The team has spirit to overcome adversity

Soccer takes a hold of William Jewell College

Soccer is not an easy game, and it becomes increasingly more difficult when you're losing by lopsided scores.

This fact was all too apparent to William Jewell's squad as they rolled into Fulton last Saturday to battle Westminster.

The Cardinals nailed a 2-1 decision — their first.

The week had started none too auspiciously for the Cardinals when they took on Mid-America Nazarene

Tuesday. Falling behind early, Jewell was showing immense improvement from their play the previous weekend, but lost, 6-0.

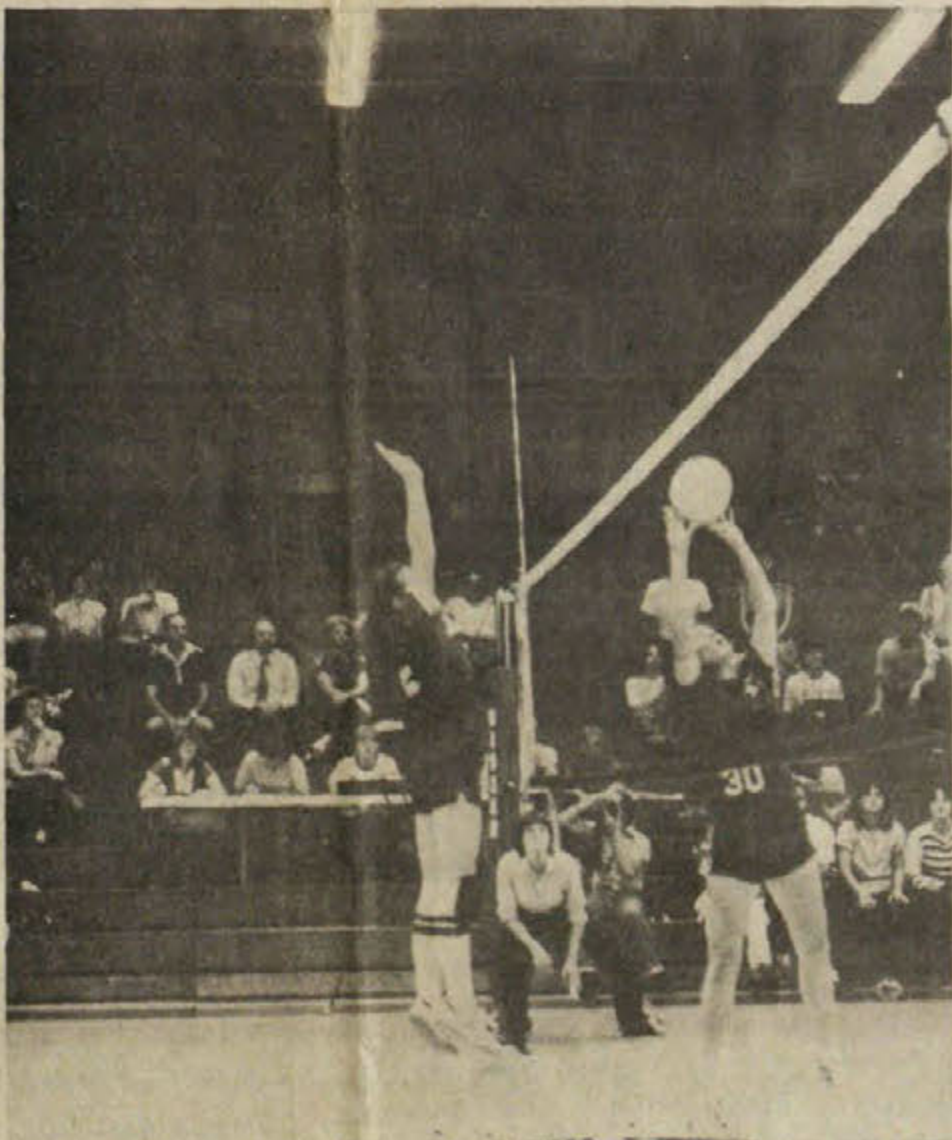
On Saturday, it was different. Jewell drew first blood. Mid-way through the first half, there was a mix-up in front of the Westminster net. A penalty kick was awarded to Jewell, and Kerry Woodfield tallied the goal.

Westminster knotted the score at 1-1 just before the

half ended.

Both teams played tight soccer during the second half, with Jewell showing almost too much caution. Yet the Cardinals managed to continually turn back scoring threats.

It was a victory Coach Jon Paul could savor, but not one he could dwell on. Missouri Western was expected in Liberty at the first of the week to challenge Jewell, who finally gets to play a match on home turf.



VOLLEYBALL ACTION SET—Liberty High School volleyball returns home Tuesday for conference foe Belton. Varsity action begins at 7 p.m., with junior varsity action set to start at 6 p.m. According to head coach Patsy Lipira, the big question in conference play seems to be "Who can beat Fort Osage?" She says that "leading the conference will be Fort Osage. The rest of the conference seems to be closely matched. We feel we are capable of playing well in the conference race." The Blue Jay attack is led by seniors Laurie Cone and Rhonda Walker, along with junior Kay Kovar.

Score: 20-3

Jewell hits Washington

William Jewell tallied its second football victory in as many starts with a 20-3 win over the Bears of Washington University of St. Louis.

The game, played Saturday night, was the first of the season at Greene Stadium in Liberty.

The "Red Rage" wasted little time in showing its offensive strength.

On their second possession, with third down and 12 yards to go on the Washington University 33-yard line, quarterback Mark Capra hit Rob Schermerhorn with a pass covering the distance for a touchdown.

Al Garcia converted, and Jewell led 7-0 with 10:31 remaining in the first period.

The touchdown was set up by a fumble recovery by senior Randy Wepler of Liberty.

Wash-U began its third series from the 23-yard line. On second and six from the 27, Randy Barnett fumbled, and Jewell's Gary Ainsworth hopped on the loose ball.

Operating from the 26 yard line, Vic Davolt took a pitchout from Capra on the next

play, and drove to the six-yard line. Two plays later, Davolt scored. The PAT failed, but Jewell led 13-0 at the end of the first quarter.

Wash-U got its only score of the game three minutes into the second period on a 40-yard field goal. Jewell was forced to punt on its next possession, but got the ball back on an interception by senior James Merrell.

Jewell then plugged across the line. The PAT was good, and Jewell led 20-3.

William Jewell totaled 256 yards of offense to 193 for Washington University. In two games, the Jewell Cardinals have allowed no touchdowns by opponents.

In other stats: Vic Davolt had 92 yards in 26 carries, including one touchdown. Mark Cline rushed for 63 yards in 18 carries, and one TD. Capra completed 8 of 22 passes for 101 yards, and one TD. Senior Jack Stasi had two interceptions.

The Cardinals host Benedictine College 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Greene Stadium.

Jewell defense noted

With one game under their belts, the William Jewell Cardinals stand in fourth place nationally in defensive statistics.

According to releases from the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, the Division II Cardinals stand at fourth place defensively, allowing 61 yards rushing, and 26 yards passing for a total 87 yards.

The Jewell gridgers defeated Mid-America Nazarene in a non-conference Sept. 8.

Jewell stands in fifth place nationally, in passing defense. In the game, the Cardinals allowed five out of 14 passes to be completed, for a total of 26 yards.

Jewell defenders also picked off two of the passes in the Mid-America game.