



The New Trier News

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Greg Kolasinski passed away from lung cancer on Sept. 26 | youcaring.com

Grzegorz I Kolasinski

by Joe Borushek and Emily Roemer

Greg Kolasinski passed away on Sept. 26 from a rare form of cancer. Kolasinski grew up in Lubrza, Poland, where he and his family were exposed to radiation from the Chernobyl reactor meltdown.

For those privileged enough to know him, they knew Kolasinski was a hardworking, light-hearted man, with a contagious smile and an outrageous sense of humor.

In 2007, Angel Villaluz hired him, and the two worked closely ever since. Villaluz said, "He was very valuable to the group, able to handle higher level technical tasks. He had a very strong work ethic and the amazing ability to find creative solutions to problems."

Greg entered a department consisting of six technicians and a help desk operator. This was a tight knit and talented team that Kolasinski would help to further develop and change for the better.

Villaluz said, "He possessed an energy that separated him from the crowd and was always putting others before himself." According to his

colleagues Kolasinski always had a fresh perspective and could quickly breakdown complex problems.

Teachers who came to him with issues felt at ease, and was called the "face of the group," by co-worker Mike Valdez.

A testimony to his dedication is recognizable by looking a few years back. With staff reductions, Kolasinski became the only technician at the Northfield campus. He was able to sustain constant demand, handling every task thoroughly.

This time spent at Northfield allowed Kolasinski to establish strong relationships on both campuses. Stephanie Moretta, a teacher at the Northfield campus, relied on Kolasinski, often going to him for technological issues.

"Whenever I was in panic mode, he would reassure me as he worked through my problem. There wasn't anything Greg couldn't fix," Moretta said.

Kolasinski is survived by his wife and eleven year old son.

More seniors going international

The unique experience of international schooling has more seniors applying

by Anna Ferguson

Heavier recruiting along with a unique schooling system and the opportunity for an immersive international experience have more New Trier students applying to universities outside of the United States.

According to post-high school counselor Michael O'Connor, until recently, universities outside of the U.S. focused their efforts recruiting prospective students primarily on the east coast.

In the past few years, recruiting for schools like the University of St. Andrews in Scotland and Trinity College Dublin has moved west, influencing New Trier students.

According to O'Connor, students from this and similar high schools typically have more experience traveling, especially internationally. Seniors with this type of experience are often more comfortable in an international environment.

Earlier this year, the Wall Street Journal reported that the number of U.S. students attending foreign universities across the board has been increasing steadily. "Britain, the No.1 country for U.S. students, saw an 8% increase [of US students] in 2012-13. German universities, meanwhile, experienced a 33% increase between 2010 and 2013, according to the German Academic Exchange Service."

Over the past four years, the number of New Trier students who applied to and enrolled in non-U.S. schools has increased steadily, according to Naviance.



Senior Brendan Loftus is one of many seniors applying abroad | Scherman

2008 New Trier graduate and math teacher Bradley Kuklis compared the number of students who applied to universities outside of the United States when he was a student to now, "Some kids applied to schools in Canada, like McGill or University of Toronto, but none of my friends applied to any schools in Europe or Asia."

Senior Owen LaCava explained what attracted him to St. Andrews, "St. Andrews has course schedules that are much more focused on your major. St. Andrews has the modular system, where for your last two years, you are only taking classes related to your major."

An immersive international experience is a big part of choosing a school outside of the U.S.. Even schools like the University of British Columbia and McGill University, which are not very far geographically, offer a completely different experience culturally than U.S. schools.

The cultural differences often come in the form of a very diverse student body in foreign universities. "I really like meeting and working

with people, and St. Andrews has a very notably diverse student body so I'd be able to talk to a lot of people with a lot of different ideas, whether related to academics or otherwise," said LaCava.

For many U.S. students, cost is a major factor. McGill's total cost is about \$19,000. For schools overseas, the cost is more comparable to U.S. schools, with the cost of attendance for St. Andrews coming in at about \$54,000. However, for students interested in schools overseas, the price is worth it.

"People in other countries approach issues very differently," said Allan Goodman, president and chief executive of the Institute of International Education, in an interview with the Wall Street Journal, "and it's really important if you're going to work and live in an intercultural world to know that."

"Schools outside of the U.S. are often cheaper with the same caliber of education. Also, if you're thinking about an international profession, going to an international school could open doors," said senior Brendan Loftus.

Tournament success shines light on debate

Trevian policy debaters maintain their competitive edge

by Sarah Zhang

New Trier Debate is off to a successful start with a major tournament win, kicking off a rigorous schedule for policy debaters.

New Trier Debate is often overlooked when it comes to school teams, but this year's competitions started off with a big win.

The co-championship at the Niles Township Invitational Sept. 10-12 helped to shed light on the strength of the debate team, with two New Trier teams in the championship round, juniors Celia Buckman and Connor Warshauer versus seniors William Kirby and AJ Byrne.

Head coach David Weston describes debate as being between a club and a sport. Weston said, "Debate doesn't really encourage athleticism in a way, but I wouldn't call it a club, because a club seems

like people hang around and just discuss issues, but there is a large competitive aspect of debate."

While debate may not appear to take up as much free time as other year long athletics or clubs, the research component, along with the traveling and preparation, fills up students' schedules.

"The schedule can get pretty intense. From mid October to late November, we only have around two weekends off from traveling. When we're not traveling, it's a lot of time doing research, practice debates, and drills. Over the summer, we're at camp for seven weeks. So the time adds up, just in different ways," said Buckman.

Byrne agreed, citing the research aspect of policy debate, which is what Kirby, Byrne and Buckman all compete in, as being daunting at times. "The research requirement is quite massive with the resolution covering so many different areas for potential arguments," said Byrne.

Debate's time commitment is more of a balancing act than anything, said Kirby. "Balancing everything isn't that bad as long as you're proactive. It's not that



Debate finalists following their strong initial showing | William Kirby

different from being in season for a sport, except our season just lasts all year."

The large time commitment pays off, however, when they're competing in a tournament or competition much like the Niles Invitational. Traveling to tournaments, competing and winning is one of Kirby's favorite aspects.

"I mainly like the competitive aspect, it's nice to know that when

we go to these national tournaments we are debating against the top high schools in the country and we have a pretty good chance to win."

Byrne, whose favorite part of debating is the traveling, said, "The best part about debate is that it allows us to travel to many different places all across the country. The travel is also great because it means that we/I have a large amount of friends from different schools all across the

country which again, I don't think many other programs at New Trier can foster."

Although New Trier debate has had a lot of success as a collective, what's really important to an individual team's success is the connection between partners. Kirby and Byrne are partners this debate season.

The best way to be successful is to be competitive, said Byrne.

"Individually the best trait for success is competitiveness, constantly looking for ways to win and exploiting each of them to their fullest in any given debate. Something my partner, William Kirby, and I are quite good at."

Weston also said the drive to compete and the willingness to put in work as being something that sets the more successful debaters apart.

"It's the difference between discussing how the government works versus standing up and saying 'this is something the government should change,' and willing to defend their position against any opposition."