

Three Stars of the Week

Willie Kinsella, Senior



Kinsella finished sixth at state in the 200 meter freestyle. He also helped New Trier as a team finish fourth in the 400 meter freestyle relay.

Autumn Kalis, Senior



Kalis will participate in a three point shootout at state on Mar. 3. She is part of a NT girls basketball senior class that features three future Division One players.

John Huber, Junior



In the three game series against Loyola, Huber tallied three goals and three assists throughout the games. He has 31 goals in the season.

NT Green defeats Loyola to win SHL

Louie Lybrook had two goals in the final game to seal the win

by *Danny Fay*

New Trier Hockey's Green Team and Loyola Gold battled it out in a three game series for the Scholastic Hockey League (SHL) Championship on Feb. 23, 26 and 27.

During the first game, New Trier was down the whole game and then scored two quick goals with a minute left to go up by one.

Loyola answered, scoring a devastating goal by Danny Sullivan with five seconds left to send it into overtime, making the final score 4-3.

Down 1-0 in the series, Green faced a win-or-go-home game on Loyola's home ice, the Heartland Ice Arena. New Trier came back with a vengeance, quickly going up 2-0.

But Loyola stayed close the whole game until they scored with 5 minutes left in the game to make it 2-2 and send the game to another sudden death overtime.

New Trier scored in OT but the goal was called off by officials. Junior Michael Graham scored two minutes later to even the series at one game apiece.

It was dead even for the third game as the teams went into the 3rd period tied up. Finally, senior Louie Lybrook scored with 4 minutes left to put New Trier up 2-1. Loyola went on a power play as the clock wound down but couldn't take advantage as Green held on to clinch the series and the SHL title.

Before the games Head Coach Bob Melton believed the team was

ready to beat Loyola. "We have been improving throughout the year and have been playing our best hockey in the last few games. We have really been firing on all cylinders and if we continue to, then I think we will be very successful moving into the bigger games."

The student body echoed Melton's optimism. "I think that it is going to be an interesting game and I am really excited for it," junior Sean Douaire said. "Personally, I think they can pull out the win."

But the series against their arch rival did create a different atmosphere.

Junior Daniel Hauser, who plays on Green, said, "We bring a lot of fire into a game like this. We lost to Loyola in the Quad and I think a lot of guys still have that chip on their shoulder. We went out there to prove once and for all who we are as a team."

Coming out of regular season play, New Trier was ranked first in the SHL, as well as in the state, with a record of 49-9-1.

"The players figured things out a bit during the beginning of the season because we had no returning players from last year's team," Melton said. "But over the season they have developed into an extremely well rounded team."

Green won state titles in 2011, 2013 and 2014, and is looking to bring home another State Championship in March. "I believe that we will be hard to stop because we don't only have one good player," Melton explained.

"We have four very good lines that could go up against any team we face. It isn't one player that has to have a great game; everyone just needs to play within themselves."



Senior Chris Sonnenschein carries the puck up the ice | **Varsity Views**

Players at all levels believed that Green had what it would take.

"What sets New Trier apart is our coaching. They have the experience to put together great lines and create team chemistry," junior defenseman, Nelson Gaechter, who plays on Blue, said.

Going into the first game, Melton was confident. "This team is physical and had great all around play with outstanding talent, but the team unity and trust is what allows any line to step up and make the play when it counts, and I really believe that."

Girls Bowling finishes third in regionals



New Trier Girls Bowling after their third place finish at sectionals in Rolling Meadows on Feb. 13 | **Fessler**

The team advanced to sectionals for the second time in its history

by *Beth Wall*

For the second time ever, and for the second consecutive year, the Girls Bowling Team advanced to sectionals Saturday, Feb. 13 in Rolling Meadows.

To play at sectionals, the team had to place within the top four

schools at the regional competition a week prior. They landed in third, 1,152 pins behind Resurrection High School, who took first.

Despite their optimistic beginning, the team scored 1,000 pins below what it took to qualify for state. Sophomore Michelle Ellis was only 70 pins behind individual qualification.

According to Head Coach David Hjelmgren, the recent progress is, in part, due to bowling becoming "more of a competitive sport, as opposed to something which played out like a club eight or ten years ago."

Assistant Coach Jackie Gnant said that team members are "beginning to identify themselves as bowlers, not just people who bowl once in awhile."

Hjelmgren also has seen an increase in members' drive to bowl outside of the team, and encourages them to take private lessons and practice over the summer, "just like a tennis player would or a golfer would, just like any other sport."

The coaches all agree that practicing over the summer is vital to improving scores.

"We don't want them to simply

fall out of conditioning and have to start from scratch at the start of the next season in November," Assistant Coach Bob Amoruso said.

Most of the team's players, however, are starting from scratch when they first try out.

Senior captain Grace Fessler said, "I don't think there's been a girl who hasn't just walked on. No one knows about leagues, and no one just goes out and bowls, other than what we call 'birthday bowlers.'"

Sophomore Dina Kacila said being on the team has been "definitely a lot more competitive than I thought it would be, but also a lot more fun."

Hjelmgren said, "If you have a group of friends who all share a common interest, it's easy to say, 'Hey let's go out to the lanes.' And it's one of those things that most people can join in on."

Prior to the meet, the eight girls selected for the regional team practiced hitting two historically harder pins to hit, the seven and ten. They also watched technique videos and worked on their form.

But essentially, according to sophomore Ellen Noeh, "The more balls you throw, the better you get. Practice is everything."

"Our goal for next year is obviously to get to state, and to advance to sectionals again would be great as well. I don't think state is too far off, but it's going to take some work," Hjelmgren said.

Hjelmgren also mentioned that "this year's team had only two seniors on the sectionals team, so it's a young team, but a team with a lot of promise. So the next year and the year after, the sky's the limit."