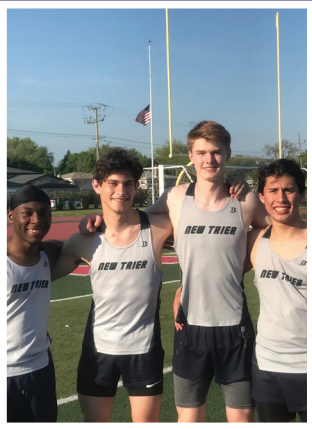


Three Stars of the Week

Jonathan Taylor, Max Levy, Adam Kunny, and Josh Flinton



Set school record in 4 x 200 meter relay

Magnus Sivertson



Struck out nine in five IP, won first Varsity start

Leah Caywood



Scored goal in last minute to defeat Evanston and win sectional

**Boys Water Polo takes sectional championship**

Ghiselli's scoring, stout defense vault Trevs past Wildkits

by Millie Winter

On Sat., May 11, NT Boys Water Polo took on their sectional meet. Playing three separate games, the boys won them all, including the final game against Evanston by a score of 7-3, collecting the sectional title.

The boys faced three different teams at sectionals: Glenbrook South, Glenbrook North, and Evanston. None of which were easy wins, and GBS proved to be the toughest task.

"GBS was one of our biggest and most worrisome competition because we had lost to them already 3 times before in this current season," explained senior Eli Cohen.

Although the Titans posed a big threat for the boys throughout the entire season, they found a way to turn it around.

"We beat them when it mattered," said senior Matt Ghiselli.

After taking down both schools from Glenview and Northbrook, the team went into the championship game against one of the Trevians' most notorious rivals: ETHS.

"During the championship game I felt a little frazzled playing in front of a crowd and not playing so great, so I just put my head down and swam to move past my mistakes," explained senior Bo Barrett.

Evanston took the lead in the beginning. Although the offense was on its game, as Barrett himself charged the net with three strong



NTBWP holds sectional plaque, earned by defeating ETHS | B. Water Polo

shots, they could not get any to go in the first half.

In the second half, Ghiselli started "lighting up the goalie to put us ahead, and then it opened up for everyone to start scoring," said Barrett.

"We just listened to our coaches and pressed hard. In the first half, shots were not going in, but in the second we grew the lead by taking better shots and executing," continued Ghiselli.

Playing in sectionals came with a lot of pressure, because if they didn't emerge victorious from two or more of their three contests, it would spell the end of their admittedly rocky season.

"The season has had its ups and downs for sure. We had a bit of a slow start, lots of close games we ended

up losing," explained Barrett. "We definitely struggled on offense, and our defense was usually what kept us in those close games."

"The season started off a bit slow and took some time to find out what our true potential is and what can be," continued Cohen.

Without a dominant season under their belts, the team had to turn up their energy for sectionals if they wanted their season to continue further and make it to state.

It took a great deal of the right mindset and effort into their practices as sectionals drew closer.

"When I'm at the pool I just like to warm up a lot so I stop thinking about how nervous I actually am and instead just think about stuff that's actually productive, like making sure my legs are warm," said Barrett. "The

weeks leading up to sectionals we had spent all of our practices preparing to beat those teams."

It was also important for the team to maintain their athletic focus, even outside of the pool environment.

"Before all 3 of our sectional games, I played basketball in my backyard, which took my mind off the game and calmed me down," said Ghiselli.

Overall though, "it's just continuing to refine our team chemistry and trying to enjoy the end of season and my high school athletics," said Barrett.

After defeating the Wildkits, the team reached their goal of reaching state. That, however, will provide another set of pressure and challenges.

On Friday, May 17, the boys played their quarter final game against Lincoln-Way East.

"We watched film on Lincoln-Way East and practice to beat their style of play," said Ghiselli.

State also provides a more energized and hectic environment.

"We are going to play loud music while practicing to mimic how loud the state game will be," detailed Cohen.

Although the boys lost in overtime 7-8, they still look at it as a closing moment for the season as a whole.

"Eli, Matt, and I were lucky enough to be a part of the state team that lost last year in triple overtime," concluded Barrett. "It was one of the fondest memories in my athletic career. I'd just like to be able to offer that to the underclassmen."

**Boys Lacrosse rides string of victories into playoffs**

After OT loss to Loyola, NT has won nine of ten and is out for revenge

by Jack Soble

New Trier Boys Lacrosse heads into the second round of the playoffs with wins in nine of their last 10 games, the only loss coming against Culver Academy, one of the top-ranked teams in the nation.

The Trevians followed an overtime defeat against Loyola on Apr. 16 with a 20-1 domination of Highland Park a week later, and haven't lost to a team from Illinois since.

"I think we've played really well," said senior Brian Sitzer, whose fourth and final year on Varsity is in its final stretch. "We want to get off to a fast start and ride that momentum into later games in the playoffs."

New Trier earned that fast start by beating Whitney Young on May 20 in the first round of the playoffs, cruising to an easy win as the second-ranked seed in their sectional. Whitney Young took down Notre Dame in a play-in game earlier this week, but they were no match for the Trevs.

Before their strong finish, the team was a bit disappointed in how they performed in the early games of the year. Losses to Louisville St. Xavier, Catholic Central, and Brother Rice defined a rough stretch for a team that entered the season with high hopes.

"I believe we have started the season below expectations with how many guys returned this year, losing to a few out-of-state teams in games that we should have won," said senior Brooks South, who will be



Junior Charlie Hoban scrambles for a loose ball in an early-season blowout win over St. Ignatius | Stuart Rodgers

playing collegiate lacrosse at Furman University next year.

The aforementioned overtime loss in April to the defending champion Ramblers, however tough the result was, marked a turning point of sorts in their season. The team felt that the effort that had them in control for most of the game would carry over to their upcoming outings, and it did.

"We were leading the whole game and I thought our team performed strongly and showed our potential. We had good depth and still a lot to work on, but after that game I was confident going forward," said senior Henry Freedman.

"It seemed like we had the upper hand for most of the game and it just slipped away at the end," explained Sitzer. Games like that against top teams can serve as teaching moments, even if they do eventually go awry.

South also noted that the slow start ended up being instrumental in how they finished the regular season, explaining how the team learned from their mistakes.

"Those games taught us a lot about ourselves and helped us improve tremendously as a team," he said. "And our main goal for the rest of the season is to prepare for Loyola."

Loyola is already on the team's mind despite the later rounds of the playoffs not having started yet, and for good reason. The Trevians' 2018 state title repeat bid was halted in its tracks by the maroon and gold in the final game, by a score of 7-2. NT did the same the year before to the Ramblers' hopes of defending their 2016 win championship.

Additionally, for the second consecutive year, the IHSA is using a sectionals format instead of one

large bracket, and the Ramblers fall in the same sectional as New Trier. So while it won't be another state final rematch, the two squads will likely face off at some point.

"I believe each of us will make it to that game," stated Freedman. "Playing Loyola in the playoffs is the best game of the year no matter what."

"We are not worried about when or where we play Loyola. We just want redemption," explained South.

Sitzer recommended a more methodical approach, knowing that to get to Loyola, they must first take care of the other schools in their path.

"We need to stay focused on our goal and have to treat playing Loyola like playing any other team in our way of winning state," he cautioned. "We hope to play them at some point, but anything can happen come playoff time."