

Trevians fall just short against Highland Park

by Michael Dugan

The New Trier boys basketball team saw its season end Mar. 4, as the Trevians fell 44-41 to the Giants of Highland Park.

After an ending that was different from the trio of close games that preceded it, the Trevians can look back on a wild season.

After starting the game on a 13-4 run, New Trier fell victim to the seemingly impenetrable zone defense of Highland Park, facing a 22-21 deficit at the halfway mark.

Continuing their hot stretch in the second quarter, the Giants kept up their hot shooting while outscoring the Trevians 12-3 in the third quarter, and they increased their lead to 34-24 headed into the fourth quarter.

As they had done all season, the Trevians kept fighting and chipped away at Highland Park’s lead until they were on top by one point with just over three minutes left in the game. The two teams traded baskets offensively and matched each other’s stops on the defensive end, until senior Ryan Haak notched three of his game-high 16 points to cut the Highland Park lead to just one at 42-41.

The Giants’ Hallvard Lundevall, a senior, hit two clutch free throws with just over 11 seconds left in the game, bringing the Giants’ lead to

44-41. After a timeout near half-court to draw up one final play, a potential game-tying three bounced off the back iron, and the Trevians’ season was a wrap.

Assistant coach Terry Coughlin had high praise for the Giants’ unique defense.

“Highland Park plays a 1-2-2 zone and they play it extremely well,” he said. “It’s not something many teams play and as we scouted them heading into the playoffs we knew most teams took some time to get used to the style of play. Unfortunately for us we weren’t able to swing the pace of the game back in our favor until the 4th quarter, where we finally took the lead.”

While an early playoff exit is not something that this team had envisioned, the season was certainly a wild ride.

After starting 2-4 and getting blown out on its home floor against rival Evanston, New Trier was failing to perform at a level of which they were capable.

Senior guard and sharpshooter Patrick Kelley said it was due to a lack of identity for the new-look Trevians.

“I think we started out the season without an identity,” said Kelley. “We started 2-4 and it took a tough triple-overtime win over Maine South to really turn our season around. That was a really big game



High-scoring Senior David Hammes, pictured here versus rival Maine South, could muster only 8 points against Highland Park | NT News Archives

because it changed the trajectory of our season.”

The marathon game was certainly a turn around the corner for the Trevians. It proved to be a successful rebound just two nights after the Evanston disaster, as the Trevians won three of their next four games. They then hit a hot stretch during the month of January, winning eight of nine games.

The Maine South victory not only changed the season’s trajectory, but also provided the seniors with a positive way to look back on both the season and their careers, according to Kelley.

“I’d say my best memory was winning that game against

Maine South to snap their 17-game conference win streak. Especially with the way our season started, winning that game felt like a huge weight lifted off our shoulders,” said Kelley.

Senior forward Andrew Hauser shared Kelley’s pride in the victory.

“Beating Maine South this year was a favorite for everyone, no doubt,” he said, branching off of Kelley. “But personally, I love going up to the ‘dog-pound’ in Waukegan. Their stadium is really unique, their fans are passionate, and, most notably, their pep band is unbelievable,” he stated.

Coughlin also had high praise for the season.

“Personally I look back on this season as a success. There are many coaches in the state that would do anything to have a 20-win season, let alone four in a row,” said Coughlin.

Losing ten seniors isn’t easy for any team, and this year’s squad is certainly no exception.

“If I had to name one thing we will miss about this group of seniors it is their ability to bring a team together,” said Coughlin, looking forward to next season. “Hopefully the juniors on the team remember how welcoming the environment was this season and will want to provide that same atmosphere next season.”

In terms of the X’s and O’s, Coughlin said the Trevians may have a new look next year.

“On a schematic level we will be much bigger next season. We [the coaches] have discussed moving to an offensive and defensive system that will allow us to feature multiple frontcourt players on the court at one time.”

This year’s team finished with a record of 20-10. Next season, the Trevians will have to replace ten seniors and look to the experience and leadership of starting guard Mikey Hurley, along with returning guard Tino Malnati, in hopes of accomplishing a remarkable fifth-straight season of 20 or more wins

Trevian athletics are latest addition to Twittersphere

by Nora Crumley

The New Trier Athletics Department created a Twitter account (@AthleticsNTHS) Jan. 9, sharing school athletic information and making game results more accessible for students, parents, and alumni.

Over a month ago the New Trier Athletics Department decided it would be in the school’s best interest to create a department Twitter account in order to promote Trevian athletic events.

According to athletic director Randy Oberembt, several other athletic departments in the North Suburbs, such as rival Evanston Township, have begun to use Twitter to promote student athletic activities. Seeing this, New Trier followed suit and created an account devoted only to athletics.

The account features game updates and results, alumni updates, and promotes a wide variety of New Trier athletic teams and athletes.

The tweets provide updates on former New Trier athletes and their success at the collegiate level, ranging from Stanford lacrosse star Kelsey Murray and Dartmouth basketball player Connor Boehm, to USC swimmer and Olympic-hopeful Reed Malone and St. Louis Cardinal baseball player Charlie Tilson.

Another benefit of the twitter account is their live tweeting, which provides students and fans alike with an opportunity to follow the action from their phones when they can’t make it to games. This was extremely beneficial with New Trier girls basketball’s trip to state, where only a few loyal students were able to make the drive out to Bloomington.

“We wanted to be able to share up-to-the-minute information to those interested, whether it be students, family, or friends who are unable to

attend, or those who live out-of-state and still are interested in New Trier Athletics,” said Oberembt.

Although many individual New Trier athletic teams have their own Twitter accounts, such as Swimming, Girls Lacrosse, and Softball, the new athletics Twitter promotes all New Trier-sponsored sports.

“We do want a central account under the direction of the administration,” said Oberembt. “While many of the New Trier athletic programs have their own twitter accounts, we, the athletic administration, in a supervising capacity could promote New Trier athletics overall.”

New to the internet world, the account has not yet caught the eye of many New Trier students.

Ashley Martinez, a sophomore, said “I have not heard of the [New Trier Athletics] Twitter, but I think it’s a good idea to have score updates accessible for students to see.”

Oberembt addressed the lack of students who know about the account.

“Once we get settled and comfortable with our account, we will be more aggressive about promoting our account and the information it offers.”

Oberembt also stated that the account is available on New Trier’s new website and that free notifications for all New Trier athletics scheduling is also available on the athletics page of the website.

“The [New Trier Athletics] Twitter will provide information generally, what would normally be under the athletic department,” said Oberembt. “Our goal is for alumni and those not part of our school to be able to experience New Trier and be able to keep in touch with New Trier Athletics.”

Hawks adjust to life without Kane

by Danni Leserve

With the NHL playoffs looming only two months away and the loss of star right winger Patrick Kane looming even larger, the Chicago Blackhawks chances of winning their third Stanley Cup in five years is up in serious jeopardy.

Kane was injured on Feb. 24 after hitting the boards awkwardly, a result of a controversial crosscheck from Florida Panthers defenseman Alex Petrovic.

He broke his clavicle, or collarbone, from the impact, and had surgery on Feb. 25. Kane will be out for at least 12 weeks but he should be back for the third round of the playoffs, if the Blackhawks make it that far. Although upset about missing the rest of the regular season, Kane is optimistic about his return in the post season.

He recently said in an interview with ESPN, “I think I’ve kind of moved on from it now, but at the same time it was definitely a tough couple of days after you hear the news of the injury and the extent of how long you’ll be out. I’ll try to do the best I can to get as ready as I can for playoffs and be ready to go when I come back.”

Luckily for the Blackhawks, Kane was injured right before the trade deadline and the team was able to pick up two new important players to replace his production while he is sidelined.

They scooped up playmaking forward Antoine Vermette from the Phoenix Coyotes in exchange for a 2015 first-round draft pick and defense prospect Klas Dahlbeck, as well as defenseman Kimmo Timonen from the Philadelphia Flyers in exchange for a 2015 second round draft pick and a 2016 conditional draft pick.

But are these two players enough to replace Kane and give



Kane, a fan favorite despite his controversial off-ice issues, has been a prolific goal-scorer since he emerged into the league in 2007 | AP Images

them enough push to get the Cup this year? It’s clear that the Blackhawks front office is in “win-now” mode despite the injury to Kane, and are willing to trade future draft picks and young talent in exchange for veterans that can help them succeed right now.

Vermette and Timonen are very serviceable players; the latter is even a former All-Star. But Kane leads the entire Blackhawks team in points, goals, and assists. He was on pace for a record-setting season, in his attempt to become the first American to lead the NHL in points. Before the injury he was tied for the league leader in points, and he was in the running to win the MVP award this year with 27 goals and 31 assists in 61 games.

Kane is an obvious star for the Blackhawks and he is especially hard to replace. He is both a vocal leader of the team who has played a huge role in the Blackhawks Stanley Cup victories, as well as a leader on the ice. Since Kane’s injury, in their last six games the Blackhawks have a record of 4-2.

Even though the Hawks have sustained their winning ways in the first couple weeks without Kane, they have a tough schedule ahead and may have a hard time staying as the third seed in the Central Division without

Kane.

Looking forward to the playoffs, the Blackhawks will certainly be playing hockey in May. If the season ended today, they would have to play the St. Louis Blues in the first round, a tough matchup against a physical team. This season the Blackhawks hold the edge with a 3-1 overall record against the Blues, but Kane was a significant contributor in those games. Without him it might be hard to beat the Blues and move onto the second round of the playoffs.

The Blackhawks are a very strong team, with veteran players and an incredible coaching staff, but without their top scorer and leader, other players are going to have to step for a playoff run to happen. With Kane out for 12 weeks the Hawks’ chance of advancing through the playoffs and winning the Stanley Cup is very uncertain.

“You can say it’s just time for me to kind of maybe rest and relax, try to get re-energized for when I do come back and, you know, when I get in the gym, when I get on the ice, make sure you’re working hard, as hard as possible to feel good and get in good shape and feel good when I come back,” concluded Kane in his interview with ESPN.