

Boys Cross Country Making a Statement with Fundraising Effort

Team raises over \$10,000 to help refugees in the area

By Alyssa Pak

This past summer, on a Saturday long run, some of the boys on the cross country team ran to collect pledges from family and neighbors for RefugeeOne, ending up with \$10,209 for the organization, exceeding their original expectations.

RefugeeOne assists refugees in coming to the United States and settling into a new life. It helps refugees from many different countries, such as Venezuela and Syria.

The team decided to run for RefugeeOne because the head coach David Wisner's family had been working with the organization.

"A family came in from Syria and my mom was one of the ones who gave money and helped to set them up in an apartment, so I've been helping them with English. I've been doing that once every two weeks," said junior Luke Wisner who has been on the team for the last three years.

The team's efforts payed off, as the amount of money they raised had a significant impact on the organization. Wisner explained that recently.

RefugeeOne's funding has

been cut. "We were able, with the money we donated, to get their daycare back up, so what they do is when they have refugees taking English classes, they keep their kids at a daycare, but since their funding was cut they didn't have enough money to keep it going. But because of what we raised, they can now open it again."

It's been a really great experience for me because you see these people and they're so happy to be here

Wisner ran 13 miles, and stated that while he was tired, it was also a great team experience. However, not all of the boys came out to run for the organization; some chose to not run for political reasons. "I know that it's kind of a controversial topic, but it's just helping people so I thought that it was a good idea," said Wisner.

Many of those who did run shared that the run was definitely a rewarding experience despite the longer distance.

Junior Will Gibbons said that he not only enjoyed running with his friends, but also that his family were political refugees from Cuba, giving this runathon a greater purpose. "This hits very close to home, helping other refugees."



Boys Cross Country celebrating the amount of money raised **Trevian XC**

"The runathon worked so well because we're obviously a running team, and just to fold it in with our usual long run and actually give that meaning and purpose beyond just training was really cool," noted junior Charlie Forbes. "It was one of my longer runs ever but it also helped to raise a lot of money for these refugees."

Another senior captain, Patrick Norrick, ran 16 miles. "I felt tired, but I was glad that I was able to raise money for a good cause

while doing something that I love," he stated. One of the parts that he really enjoyed about the fundraiser was organizing it and getting to learn more about RefugeeOne.

The fundraiser was a team effort and brought together many different runners from the school. The entire cross country team (all the freshman, sophomore, and varsity athletes) ran with each other, which normally doesn't happen, according to Forbes. "We all did a lap at the start together, which was really cool." Although one of the

senior captains Zach Crispino was injured at the time and unable to run, he still biked with the team and his family donated money.

"RefugeeOne is a great organization. These people, they face so many challenges in their lives, so many more than we do, and so to give back is really nice. I know a lot of money went to helping the kids get school supplies and things like that to get ready for the school year. A lot of them don't even know English, so anything to help them out is fantastic," stated Forbes.

Varsity Spring Sports Roundup

By David Heiman

While the rest of us were enjoying our summer, a handful of New Trier sports teams had their seasons continue after school ended last year. Here are the results of what we missed over the summer.



New Trier Website

Girls Varsity Lacrosse: The team came close to a state title, ending up as State runner up to Loyola losing 15-9.



New Trier Website

Girls Varsity Soccer: New Trier girls varsity soccer made the state championship game at North Central College but fell to Barrington high school by a score of 1-0.



New Trier Website

Boys Varsity Lacrosse: Shortly after school ended boys lacrosse was triumphant over Loyola's varsity lacrosse team beating them 9-8 and winning their 12th state championship and their 10th in the last 12 years.



New Trier Website

Boys Varsity Baseball: The boys varsity baseball team made it all the way to the Class 4A state semifinal, losing to Crystal Lake South by a score of 9-3.

Girls Tennis Serves Up the Community For a Good Cause

Team volunteers at Glencoe Gardens

By Lexi Shoup

Back in August, the New Trier girls varsity tennis team volunteered at the Glencoe Community Gardens.

The girls performed a variety of tasks from harvesting, mulching, and composting plants to hammering and sawing to create planters.

The players divided into teams and each team worked on a different project to help out around the garden.

According to senior captain Amia Ross, "some of us were harvesting plants like leaves, peppers, and squash, and some of us were composting."

The Glencoe Community Gardens get a lot of their scraps for compost from locals and local businesses like True Juice so we got some scraps like watermelon rinds and lemon peels and we smashed them and then put some wood chips on top."

The players also worked together to build and harvest, according to senior Caroline Bercu, "We harvested a lot of crops that went to local shelters. And we built flower beds with nails and wood."

According to assistant coach Kerry Hall, the Glencoe Gardens were an easy choice, "we knew the people in charge of it which helped and the players thought it would be a good choice, they were excited about it."

The Glencoe Gardens harvest a large amount of food each year to donate to people living outside the North Shore.

The aspect of service is



Girls Tennis players at the Glencoe Community Garden | Schroeder

important to the coaches. According to Hall, "We like to try to do a service project every year if we can. We've done various things over the years. As a varsity squad it's bonding which is nice but it's also giving back and that's one of our philosophies as a program."

Hall values service for two reasons, "I think it's very important because it helps them feel good about giving back and we can as coaches help organize it and it's an important thing to do when you live on the North Shore. And I think a secondary benefit is that they're bonding and enjoying each other's company."

Not only did the girls get to give back to their communities, but they also had the opportunity to bond as a team.

Ross agreed when it came to the importance of the service project, "It was dual team bonding, dual service, it's always good for us to give back to our community. The coaches always like when we do service, give back, and it was fun with the team to be there with everyone."

Team activities are really important to get players comfortable both around each other and around their coaches. According to Hall,

"We do team building all the time but on or near the courts. Or we have a carb dinner maybe 4 or 5 times a year called a "pump up". It's usually after practice.

As for the season so far, Hall said, "It's going wonderfully mostly because the players are good people and they get along with each other and they work hard and they're fun to be around.

And we have great leadership from our seniors and our captains and some young talent."

He added that how they do at state is not always the best way to determine how successful the season is, "Because our sectional is so strong when we qualify for state it'll be very hard for us to get our full team through which is too bad because we're one of the top teams in the state and it's a system we have to live with and adjust to."

New Trier has to compete with some of their hardest competition just to qualify for state.

Finally he added, "So I'm not looking at that as the ultimate measure, that might be just four players that play for us at state and our squad is 23, so it's fun to win and we do lots of that but the other aspects are harder to measure but more rewarding."