

Boys soccer wins regionals

Trevians beats Maine South 2-0 in Oct. 21 regional game

by Charlie Burton

With 11:33 remaining in the game, senior forward Ameen Salako had a chance to score his second goal of the game and put the game out of reach for Maine South.

Cool, calm and collected, he stepped up to the task and buried the penalty kick to secure the regional championship for the Trevians.

"Before every penalty kick, it's important to know where you want to place the ball," said Salako.

"I just went up there knowing where I wanted to kick it, and I was just happy that it went in."

Even though Maine South was higher ranked, these two teams matched up evenly.

New Trier and Maine South were co-conference champions of the Central Suburban South League and played a scoreless draw earlier in the season.

"Maine South plays a 3-5-2 which is an interesting formation, so we knew there would be a lot of space on the width to get forward," said senior co-captain Matt Gallo, "They committed a lot of players in their attack when we first played them, so we knew we could score on the counter."

Since the last game against Maine South ended with no goals, the Trevians knew it was important to try to play with a sense of urgency and make sure to bury the ball into the back of the net.

Salako opened up the scoring, and with about seven minutes left in the first half Salako bicycle-kicked a corner from Gallo to give the Trevians a 1-0 lead.

"The ball had very little pace on it that I knew we couldn't score off a header," said Salako, "All I could think of was the bicycle kick so I saw the opportunity and I went for it."

"Ameen plays with so much grit and passion," said Gallo, "he holds such high expectations for himself and



Boys soccer celebrates on the field after their regional win | NT Athletics

he works relentlessly in practice and it pays off during the games."

Head coach Matt Ravenscraft thinks the key to the team's success is finishing their chances.

"We have a pretty solid defense, so it's important that our forwards put the ball away when we have the chance."

On the other side of the field, the Trevians' rock solid defense led by seniors Cameron Zwick, Michael Sumner, and Danny Ladik kept the Hawks scoreless and were credited with the clean sheet.

"Our defense is a brick wall," said Gallo, "So we know if we can score early, we put ourselves in a good position to win."

The defense pressured Maine South forwards throughout the game and barely let them even close to the goal, but the Hawks did not go down without a fight.

With 30 minutes left in the game Maine South was awarded a penalty kick and an opportunity to tie the game. Junior goalie and two sport fall athlete Sam Rutherford stepped up to the task with a huge save to keep the Hawks off the scoreboard.

According to Gallo, this win gives the team more confidence

heading into their sectional semi final, "beating the team that held a share of the conference title is never easy.

"They were a good team and this win proves that we can play with the best in the sectional."

Salako agrees, "We know that we are a good team and that we can beat other good teams. Things started to click for us at the right moment and now we just have to get the job done versus Evanston."

"We had one of the hardest schedules in the state this year," said Ravenscraft, "the regional championship is always a goal for us, but we know we can play with some of the better teams in the state.

Clearly, Evanston is a huge game for us, but the way we have been playing, we are fairly confident going into that game."

The Evanston-New Trier rivalry is one of the biggest in the state. Both teams play hard in order to win the hydrant and paint it their school colors.

Whoever wins the game gets to keep the hydrant until the next time the two teams compete, and the Trevians look to win back the hydrant for first time since 2014.

Francis Fay leads on and off the field

Dual sport athlete Francis Fay makes his mark on NT sports

by Bella Geroulis

Acting as a strong presence on the football team since his freshman year, senior Francis Fay has been a key player to the football program and its success over the past four years.

A dual sport athlete, Fay makes a lasting imprint not just on the football field, but on the baseball diamond as well.

Baseball coach Peter Drevline can attest to Fay's strength in whatever sport he's playing, "he's a well rounded athlete and person, and he has a 100% mentality no matter what sport he's playing."

In his own words, Fay says that he "loves every aspect that the football team has to offer."

From the coaches to the players, he always looks forward to hanging out with a group of guys that he has come to call his best friends.

The team has shaped and sculpted Fay into the person he is today. Though he is unsure if he wants to pursue football in college, he says that the relationships he has cultivated through his athletic career will stay with him for years to come.

The New Trier football program has continued to produce star players each year that keep bringing the team back to the dynasty it once was.

The 2016-2017 roster has achieved a new level of athleticism that the Trevians haven't seen in years, and Fay has been a leader and a driving force in their success.

Recently, the Trevians beat Maine South, something that hasn't been done in close to 20 years.

As an offensive player, Fay carried the ball over 100 yards and acted as a defensive magician in order to defeat the once undefeatable team.

Football coach Brian Doll said that aside from his achievements on the field, it was Fay's leadership

before the game that "did it for the team."

The Maine South game was one of Fay's greatest moments he has ever experienced.

He and his fellow teammates fell to the ground in tears, sharing the moment together as they continued on their success to the postseason.

To be a part of a team that essentially made history is something that Fay says he'll never take for granted.

Though it can often be overlooked or forgotten, Fay's skill and agility allowed him to be moved up to Varsity when he was just a sophomore.

Coach Doll went on to say that Fay was moved up at such a young age due to his "speed and size." As he's grown up with the team, he's taken what he's learned from his predecessors and become a role model for the underclassmen on the team.

Junior Wilson MacRitchie says that Fay has been an inspiration for the younger players, saying "Francis is really energetic and he always sets a good example for the team."

"He's a good leader and a really hard worker," MacRitchie went on to say that next year will be different without Fay, but he's hopeful that the upcoming seniors will step up to fill Fay's shoes.

Max Kaufman, who is currently a junior, was also moved up to Varsity when he was a sophomore. Just like Fay, Kaufman worked hard to improve and become the best athlete he could.

With regard to Fay's work ethic, Kaufman said, "Francis has been extremely focused on making the team better every week."

"His goal every week since preseason is to make the team ready in every way possible."

Francis Fay has made a mark in New Trier athletics, and will be remembered long after he graduates, not for only his athleticism but also his sportsmanship and humility.

Crew places top ten at Head of the Charles

Boys placed 3rd and girls placed 8th in international regatta

by Emily Wong

Oct. 22 and 23, boys crew placed 3rd and girls placed 8th, in the 52nd Head of the Charles regatta, the biggest regatta in the world.

The competition took place on the Charles River in Cambridge, Massachusetts. About 85 boats competed in each race.

The top boat of 8 rowers from each team competed in a three mile race that started at the Boston University boathouse and finished at Herter Park.

The conditions were not ideal during this year's race for the girls team. Senior Katharine Phillips said, "The weather the morning of the race proved difficult, as we battled 25 mph winds."

The team did its best to overcome the unfortunate circumstances. "The race was really wild," said senior David Theiss, "but racing in those conditions was pretty fun."

Senior captain Nicki Bukovac thought that the course brought out the best in some teammates, specifically



Coxswain Josh Klein leads the boys boat in last weekend's regatta | Pofcher

their coxswain, Nicole Pofcher. "She had to steer a really difficult course, including obstacles such as 90 degree turns, winds at 20 mph or higher, and passing boats," said Bukovac.

Theiss saw similar grit in senior rower Miles Knight. "He's tough as nails," he said.

Despite the challenges, both boats were very satisfied with their finishes. Phillips said, "Our goal was to finish in the top five this year, [but] we finished eighth, which we are still very proud of. We put forth a very good race considering the conditions."

The boys' performance exceeded their goals. "Realistically,

the guys were shooting for top 10," said senior captain Daniel Aiken.

"Given our analysis of other crews and our knowledge of our own speed, this was a reasonable goal. With a decent race, it would be in grasp. With their best race, they could get top five."

The team mentally prepared before the competition. Bukovac said, "We understood we would be up against some of the most competitive teams in the nation, so we all went into the regatta knowing it was going to be a really close and difficult race."

In addition to assessing the obstacles, the team went into the regatta with ambition and determination. "We knew we had the

potential to be a fast crew if we focused on technique, entered the race with a competitive mindset, and trusted in each other to pull as hard as we could," said Phillips.

Although they were aware of the other teams' strengths, they were confident in their potential.

"As the weekend went on," said Theiss, "we got more and more hyped for the race and realized that medaling at an international competition might actually be possible."

As both teams placed very well individually, their showing was collectively one of the strongest at the competition. "To put two boats in the top 10 is incredibly rare," said Aiken.

The only other schools this year to accomplish this feat were two elite teams from California.

This accomplishment was especially satisfying considering the caliber of many competing teams. "The crews we compete against are clubs that can recruit rowers and often train year-round," said Phillips, "so it is very impressive that our program, as a school sport with limited water time, is succeeding on such a high level."

The rest of the team agreed that their performance at this regatta would attest to the strength of the school's

program.

"Finishing in 3rd at an international regatta should really help New Trier gain some recognition from other teams," said Theiss.

"People usually ignore Midwestern rowing, but now we're sort of on everyone's radar," he said.

The captains credited the team's strength to the hard work that the rowers put in during the time leading up to the race.

"Several guys on this boat put in a lot of work at 5 am before school to get even faster. I don't think there had been that much of a desire to work until now," said Aiken.

Bukovac saw this change as well. "The entire team has been working really hard this season to make our boats as fast as they can be," she said.

They're confident that this drive will continue and the team will continue to grow better.

"The New Trier Rowing Program was started only a bit more than a decade ago with just a few rowers," said Phillips. "Our success at Head of the Charles reflects the growth of this program and the potential it has to improve even more, as we can only get stronger and faster."