

Three Stars of the Week

Willem Kupets, Senior



Kupets finished second in the 160 pound weight class at the Central Suburban League's conference meet on Jan. 23 in Deerfield.

Katie Schretter, Senior



Schretter, a senior, helped lead the New Trier girls basketball team to a win against Waukegan on Jan. 29. She will attend Cornell University next fall.

Michael Graham, Junior



Graham recorded a powerplay goal as well as an assist in a 6-0 win over GBN on Jan. 30. He is second on New Trier with 29 goals on the season.

Claire Hartman essential to NTGG success

The senior has been lauded for her leadership this year

by Madeline Hultquist

Senior Claire Hartman is a captain of the New Trier girls gymnastics team, however, she is known for much more than this title. Her coach and teammates recognize her as both a supportive friend and a fierce competitor, on and off the mat.

Hartman began her venture into gymnastics relatively early. "I started when I was in fourth grade, because my younger sister was obsessed with it and wanted me to do it, too," she said.

Her sister, sophomore Caroline Hartman, recalled those early days: "We used to do gymnastics in our basement all the time. We would even beg our mom to spot us on back handsprings."

Hartman has been doing gymnastics for nine years, and her improvement is clear to those around her. Teammate and co-captain senior Taylor Kwok said, "She's definitely become a much stronger gymnast over the years that I've known her." Girls gymnastics coach Jennifer Pistorius agreed.

"She has improved with her tricks, getting stronger and more consistent," she said.

On the team, Hartman's typical routines involve dance: "My favorite events are beam and floor because those two events are more dance-y and I like incorporating elements of dance into my routines," Hartman said. Caroline said, "She is so graceful



Senior Claire Hartman ends her fourth season on the New Trier gymnastics team this spring | Varsity Views

and has such a pretty dance... In my opinion, she is best at beam because she is so poised."

Both her teammates and her coach have noticed her achievement. "This year we needed her to step up on beam, and she's been doing a really great job," Kwok said. Pistorius added, "Her beam and floor routines are beautiful." Caroline said, "She hits her splits and she does a Valdez on beam which is a trick not many people can do."

Not only does Hartman possess a strong sense of competitiveness, but she is also one of three captains for the team. "She has been a strong leader for our JV team all four years," Pistorius said. Her leadership has positively influenced the team and her co-captains.

"I've loved working with Claire on captain stuff. In the beginning of the season we helped all the new girls get accustomed to the team and planned some team bonding activities," Kwok said. As

captains, the girls have a variety of different responsibilities. Some of these tasks include designing and ordering clothes for the team and also organizing team dinners.

Despite Hartman's new responsibilities as a team leader, she is still consistently there for her teammates. "She always has a smile on her face and helps her teammates," Pistorius said. Kwok agreed and said, "She's also one of the most supportive teammates I've ever had, because she's always at meets to cheer people on or make them less nervous." Caroline said, "When I'm done competing, Claire is always the first person to hug me."

Gymnastics was never just a hobby for Hartman. "There are four events, so there are always new skills to learn," she said. She has continued the sport throughout her high school career, however now the sport is more rigorous: "I practice everyday after school for 2.5 hours, and during the off season I practice three times a

week for three hours."

Her dedication to the sport can be matched to her sister, who is always there for inspiration.

"We motivate each other because if one of us gets a new trick, the other one wants to get it. The friendly competition helps us both improve," Hartman said.

Caroline shares this feeling: "Claire is my older sister, so I definitely look up to her. She is always happy for me when I do well and I am always happy for her!"

Hartman is leaving for college next year, and is not planning on continuing gymnastics in school. University of Michigan is one of Hartman's top choices, and would likely pursue a major in a math or science subject.

"I hope our team wins conference, and I hope we can win our regional, too," she said. "I've been doing this sport for nine years, and this is my last year, so I want to make the most out of my last meets."

NTGH defeats Loyola

They now sit at 10-6-3 with a game against Upper Fox Valley on Saturday

by Emily Roemer

On Jan. 9, New Trier Girls Hockey claimed a win over Rival Loyola. New Trier took home a 1-0 win.

Although they won, the game won't be in the record books, because it was a part of the Quad Header tournament.

With 1:30 left in the game, Mia Solberg scored the only goal. "The team did a great job winning all the little battles all across the ice. Taking a lot of shots on the Loyola goalie was also productive," New Trier assistant coach, Carla Pentimone said.

New Trier's senior goalie Meagan Hearn was successfully able to stop a slap shot by Loyola senior center Tess Dettling, keeping them off the score board.

"The teams are very evenly matched," Pentimone said, which made for a very competitive and high energy game.

New Trier Girls Hockey began competition in the year 2000 with a varsity team and a junior varsity team. The two teams currently compete in the Metro Girls Hockey League in Northern Illinois.

New Trier Girls Varsity hockey claimed the state title not only in 2012, but in 2014 as well.

This season has been a successful one so far for this team.

Their record this season is 10-6-3. The girls have scored a total of 67 goals, with only 33 goals against.

This year unlike in the past, there are five freshmen on the team. "The traditions and expectations of the team haven't changed, but it's a little different with so many new additions to our team," senior defenseman Grace Hayes said.

"There is more focus on showing them how the teams works, as opposed to the past where there would only be one or two freshmen that could figure it out by watching the upper classmen," she continued.

The team has shown a lot of support to the freshmen. "The team is like one big family, full of love and support for each other," junior left wing Tommy Solberg said.

Although the team has been successful, they have areas to improve on. The team has been mainly focusing on improvements in shooting and break outs.

"We're good at winning the little battles, but when it comes to actually putting the cookie in the basket, it takes longer than it should," senior left wing Mia Solberg said.

Much like every team, there are some games where the simple chemistry of the team is out of whack.

"I would say passing is not our strongest skill. We need to work on being more consistently in tune with each other on the ice," Hayes said.

For junior center Isabella Sennett, girls hockey is "just competitive enough to keep things interesting, but just relaxed enough for friendships and team bonding to be the number one priority."

Winter Sports Wrap-ups

Boys Bowling



Boys Bowling proudly poses after their regional fourth place result | Utz

New Trier bowling finished 24th at the state competition in O'Fallon. The Trevians brought six bowlers: senior captains Ryan Foy, Conley Utz, and Connor Cook, as well as juniors Kalani Rennoe, Jordan Wilson, and Dylan Santacruz. New Trier competed on Friday, but was not one of the twelve teams that qualified to move on to Saturday's games. They were coming off a 4th place finish in sectionals at Roselle.

Dance Team



The NTD squad poses outside the ESPN World of Sports | Khomutov

The New Trier dance team traveled to Walt Disney World in Florida to compete in the ESPN World of Sports National Dance Team Championship on Jan. 29. They placed ninth in the nation in the Large Varsity Hip Hop category.