

Star players of the week

Andrew Kuhn



Scored twice against Maine South and “led the back line” to three straight shutouts

Graham Dable



Made three field goals (42, 40, and 35 yards) and kicked four extra points in win over Palatine

Bridget Forbes



Placed first for New Trier and third overall in Libertyville Invitational

The rivalry is back.

Fans pack stadium for the first home football game as NT takes on Loyola

by Millie Winter

“The rivalry is back” was spray painted across the front lawn of the Northfield campus. As clouds of baby powder filled the air, the Green Team sweatshirts filled the expanded bleachers.

Loyola returned to NT grounds to face the football team in the first regular season game since October.

“I think that with a rivalry as big as New Trier and Loyola there was bound to be a great turnout,” Senior Lizzie Kenter said. And there was.

Seniors held a tailgate two hours before the actual game and started going into the stadium as early as 6:15pm just to get the best seats. By the time 7:00pm rolled around (30 minutes before the game), the bleachers were at capacity.

The forever feud with Loyola was definitely apparent, but NT students were less focused on the “enemy” and more focused on showing support for their team in the first home football game of the year.

“I was sitting in the section with the rest of the seniors and everyone was just happy to be there and cheer on NT. Of course some people bashed Loyola too, but overall I



Enthusiastic fans cheer on the home team while decked out in all-white at the Northfield stadium | Pearlman

think that the game (for a majority of fans there) was showing up for NT and cheering them on rather than bashing or booing the competition,” Kenter explained.

Going into the game, Coach Doll explained, “Offensively we wanted to establish the run game early against them, and also take advantage of Carson Ochsenhirt’s running ability.”

Although the fans and team were amped up, the anticipation was cut short as a downpour hit the stands early on. Still, the spirit roared on. Senior Katie Stearns said, “The rain didn’t dull our spirit, in fact, it made us cheer even louder.” Senior Marne Sullivan said, “Students were the last ones to leave the stadium. People wanted to stay even when it was pouring rain.”

As the storm continued, the delay did, too. According to Doll, the 80 minute delay did have an impact on the team and the fans, just in different ways.

“It wasn’t easy for the team during the long delay because of how excited everyone was to have the game back, and then to have the weather put you inside for 80 minutes,” said Doll.

But he said that, “Both teams had to deal with it, and we will once again learn from it as we move forward.”

The fans were not happy about the storm either, and in the beginning many presumed that was it for the game. As soon as it was announced that the game would continue later, students rushed back to get their spot on the bleachers.

After the delay, the reboot of the game didn’t go the Trevians’ way. Running back and outside line backer, Brian Sitzer, was injured and out the rest of the game. Coach Doll explained that, “We have other team players that need to step up and help us. Injuries happen throughout a season, and we prepare numerous

players in case of injury.”

The game ended with the Trevians losing 40-3. Most players said they “moved on” and want to “focus on the upcoming games”.

Rather than let the loss deter their pride, Doll said that it helped the team move forward.

“We already have started to make adjustments, and that is what an early season loss does for your team. You learn about your team and also as a coach what didn’t go so well, and we grow from it.”

And grow from it they did. The next week the team bounced back with a win against Fremd by a score of 27-21.

While the football team did lose, the atmosphere was energetic and the fans were “all in” no matter rain or shine. Senior Teddy Kamin said, “The atmosphere was electric, it was unlike anything I had seen at a NT game before.”

Northfield sports facility undergoes renovations

Project includes expanded bleachers, McNamara building, and tennis courts

by Jack Soble

Over the summer, New Trier’s Freshman campus underwent a series of remodels and renovations to its athletic facilities to better accommodate Trevian athletes and fans alike.

The construction included remarking the tennis courts and the West parking lot, expanding the bleachers in the student section, and constructing an entirely new building dedicated to Jane McNamara, complete with a restroom, concession stand, and training facility.

“We started with some renovations and we just needed to continue so that we could enhance some of the areas at Northfield,” said Athletic Director Augie Fontanetta, who helped lead the process while students were on vacation.

“I helped design some of the athletic improvements along with the athletic staff,” said Fontanetta.

Fontanetta pointed out that a remodeling of the athletic facilities at Northfield was urgent. The tennis courts, for example, had cracked surfaces and there weren’t enough of them to be used for major events.

The new building serves as an easier point of access for a fan looking to grab a bite to eat or a player who has to be helped off the field due to an in-game injury.

“I wouldn’t single out one particular renovation,” said Fontanetta, implying that all were significant and all improved the quality of New Trier’s athletic program.



Jane McNamara and staff pose in front of the new building next to Robert Naughton Field | Pearlman

Dave Conway, director of Physical Plant Services (PPS) at the Northfield campus who served as the project manager, agreed.

“Each portion of the project solved a glaring facilities need. Athletic upgrades at the Northfield Campus or replacement of the failing parking lot were needed to continue to provide the students and staff with up to date facilities,” Conway said.

Statistically, the most dire need was the stadium bleachers. According to the Winnetka Patch, New Trier came in dead last in home seating capacity among schools in the area despite having the second largest student body.

With the 500-seat expansion, the percentage of the student body that the stadium fits increased from 38% to over 50%. This is still the lowest percentage out of local high schools, but puts New Trier on a more level playing field.

To launch the project, the athletic department had to secure a vote from the school board. The seven council

members were nearly in unanimous agreement with the only dissenting voice being that of Vice President Cathy Albrecht. She disapproved of the bleacher expansion because she “wanted to make sure the board knew the full cost of the priority items before approving spending on something that was discretionary,” according to Board of Education President, Greg Robitaille.

Albrecht did support the majority of the projects, with the aforementioned exception.

Robitaille showed no regrets in the board’s decision to approve the renovations.

“The quality and professionalism of our staff in executing the projects were all reasons to be proud of our community’s continual commitment to excellence and investment in our high school,” he said.

Administrators said that they have no qualms about the cost of the renovations, including the \$1,907,323 McNamara building. The changes to the parking lot and the tennis courts

were the other two that cost upwards of one million dollars.

As for where the money came from, Fontanetta said that the district primarily funded the projects, with a large donation to include the extra tennis courts, and some added help from New Trier’s booster club, who was responsible for adding signage depicting silhouettes of Illinois state championships lists, and action shots of New Trier athletes.

The new facilities, which have affected student life and other aspects of the Northfield campus, were evident during the Loyola vs. New Trier game. Tickets sold out by Wednesday morning of that week and the stadium was packed with ecstatic fans by kickoff.

“I’m very proud of the way everything looks, for the athletic department and for the school,” said Fontanetta. “I think it’s a great representation of the New Trier community.”