

# Girls track finishes 2nd in conference, sets school records

Kunkler sets school records for long jump and triple jump

by Alyssa Pak

On Thursday Mar. 15, girls track and field came home with a 2nd place finish at conference, and many athletes managed to break personal bests as well as school records.

During the meet against Glenbrook South, Maine South, Niles North, and Niles West, junior Sydney Kunkler broke not one, but two school records in both the long jump and the triple jump. Kunkler said that while she was walking onto the track, she felt sick and was sure that the meet wasn't going to go as she hoped it would.

However, that didn't hold true, as both Kunkler and her teammate broke the school record several times in just this one meet. Before Kunkler, junior Emma Kirkpatrick jumped an impressive 17'3" jump.

"I was so excited for her but I also felt like I was being challenged, in a good way," she said. Kunkler then broke her own personal record, jumping a 17'3.5".

Kirkpatrick followed up with a 17'5", breaking an indoor school record. "I was excited but pressured. I jumped 17'9", again breaking the indoor record. Emma and I were so happy we were both on the verge of



Girls track and field finishes second in CSL conference for the indoor season while many athletes set new PR's | NT

tears," said Kunkler. Kunkler and Kirkpatrick swept 2nd and 3rd in the event, respectively.

Kunkler also had a stellar performance in the triple jump, jumping to a first place finish with 35'8", eight inches farther than the competitor in second place.

Many teammates stated that one of their favorite moments during meets is the 4x400m relay.

"Everyone gets up and circles the track. We all do the wave as our runners pass and we chant their names. It's a really fun and exhilarating race," said junior Leah

Ulrich.

Kunkler added that "Everyone on the 4 by 4 deserves so much recognition. The determination and strength all of them have blows me away."

The team ran to a speedy first place finish in the 4x400 relay, with a time of 4:09.10. The relay team comprised sophomore Bridget Forbes, juniors Emma Fowkes and Marne Sullivan, and senior Savannah Noethlich. Noethlich noted that her favorite part of the meet was competing in this particular event.

Sullivan agreed, "My favorite

race is the 4x400 because it's the last race of the meet and everyone is cheering, which really motivates my relay team."

"When people weren't warming up or competing in their event, they were cheering for the people competing, and that really added to the atmosphere," said Forbes.

Ulrich came in third in the 1600m. She believes that part of the team's success was due to their intensive training during the weeks leading up to conference.

"I can't speak for the whole team, but my distance group had a

really hard two weeks leading up to the meet. We pounded out so many hills and track workouts with just a few recovery days, but it paid off," said Ulrich.

Sullivan also said that team workouts "involve long sprints around the field house, outdoor runs, lifting, and stair work."

Although Kunkler performed exceptionally well, she's already setting her aspirations for the upcoming meets.

"Breaking the indoor LJ and TJ record was super surreal for me, but I was only a tenth of a second away from breaking the 200 meter dash indoor record. It was disappointing but also inspiring. I knew that I could run faster, and I still have another year so that will be a goal of mine."

Noethlich is looking forward to getting her times down after running at conference.

"I'm looking to beat my PR this year, which is a 2:13 and place in the podium at state," she said.

As the end of the indoor season is now over, the training that the team does will help prepare them for outdoor season, when they really start to notice great results, according to Ulrich.

"We hope for faster times, longer and higher jumps, and getting as many teammates to qualify for state. We have big goals in the upcoming season and I can't wait," said Sullivan.

## Basketball comes up short vs Evanston

After impressive season, Trevians can't put away Evanston to advance

by Eli Lieberman

The New Trier Boys Basketball season came to an end last Friday as they fell to Evanston in the sectional finals, 69-57.

The game was played at Maine East's arena, where just two days before New Trier rallied back from a 22 point deficit to beat Niles North.

The environment at the game was everything one could expect from a big game between two arch rivals, with every seat filled.

Evanston jumped out to an early lead, securing a thirteen point advantage by halftime. The game looked out of reach as Evanston didn't miss from behind the three point line in the first half.

*"The environment at the game was everything one could expect from a big game between two arch rivals"*

However, in the second half New Trier showed flashes of the team that cut a seemingly insurmountable lead in the sectional semi finals.

The defensive guard play of Brian Conaghan and Andrew Kirkpatrick caused chaos while Ciaran Brayboy (a team high 16 points) was unstoppable in the paint. Twice in the fourth quarter New Trier closed the gap to just 5 points.

Evanston's ball handlers made free throws down the stretch (9 for 13 fourth quarter free throws) never allowing New Trier to take the lead.

Their young backcourt of juniors



Senior guard Andrew Kirkpatrick going up for a layup against Evanston | NT

Lance Jones (17 points) and Jaheim Holden (16 points), and freshman Blake Peters (a game high 19 points) were able to score when the team needed the most down the final stretch, combing for 52 of Evanston's 69 points.

Evanston went on to beat Lake Zurich handily to advance to the state competition, winning 78-56, and continued their hot shooting from behind the arc.

On the other side of the bracket, Whitney Young shocked Simeon, the favorites to take home the state title. Simeon, the number four ranked team in the country according to MaxPreps, had not lost an in-state game all year, with their only three losses coming

at the hands of teams ranked number one in their respective state. Whitney Young shocked the powerhouse with an overtime win, setting up a final four matchup against Evanston.

Evanston saw their season end to Whitney Young, losing 62-56. Evanston would win their third place game against Larkin by a 12 point Margin.

With their win over Evanston, Whitney Young advanced to play Belleville West in the championship. Belleville West won in dramatic fashion, 60-56, to take home the IHSA State trophy, ending the 2017-2018 season.

## Q & A with an athlete: football player Terry Zapf

Junior talks about his football career and expectations for next year

by David Heiman

Q: How long have you been playing football?

A: I've been playing football since I was in 5th grade. Shout out Winnetka Green Wave.

Q: How is the team looking next year?

A: The team is looking great for next year. We are bringing back a lot of starters on offense and some on defense. We are losing a lot of beef but hopefully some of the sophomores will step up.

Q: What's it like before each game and what's your routine for the day of?

A: My routine on game day is school, then I go to Thomas Kahler's house and eat Italian sausage and pasta with tk, nart and jart. Next we go to Northfield and have a team meeting and then we watch the first half of the sophomore game. We then get dressed and ready to play. Some games I get pretty nervous before, I even threw up before warren, but some games I am much more relaxed.

Q: Do any of your relatives play football?

A: Yes. Both my brothers played at New Trier. My dad, my grandpa, my uncles, and some of my cousins played, too.

Q: Do you want to continue playing football after high school?

A: Yes. I want to play football in



college.

Q: What's your favorite thing about playing football?

A: My teammates because football makes you really close with a lot of people. We are together all day during the summer and then we hang out after that so you get extremely close with guys you didn't even think you would like. Our team this year was extremely close and I will never forget that. Also winning, because it is fun.

Q: What's the best thing that football has taught you?

A: Football has taught me to not give up. Everyone gets hurt and you have to come back from your injuries. Football also has taught me to not take anything for granted. Anyone can beat you on any given play so stay woke.

*If you would like to be considered for athlete of the week, please send an email to ntnews@nthns.net or send us a tweet at our New Trier News twitter. Please include your first and last name, what sport you play, and the current grade that you are in*