

HIGH SCHOOL DYNASTY



Boys New Trier Green varsity hockey team huddles before playing the annual Illinois state game against Providence Catholic High School at the United Center on Friday March 17, 2017 | **Trovato**

NT Green wins state against Providence Catholic High School, maintaining a two year streak.

by *Darcie Kim*

New Trier Boys' Varsity Green Hockey beat Providence Catholic High School 4-2 on Friday, Mar. 17 at the United Center, bringing home the state championship for the second year in a row.

Senior Michael Graham started the game off strong for New Trier when he scored on a power play after Kyle Retondo slid him the puck in the top right slot.

The second goal was a back door pass from Matt Mulhern to Charlie Burton who buried the loose puck in front of the net to give New Trier a 2-0 lead.

Gavin Randle then scored an own goal on a delayed penalty when New Trier's goalie Hayden Wieczorek was out of the net, making the score 2-1.

John Robinson scored on a wrist shot from the slot from an assist from Mike Graham at the end of the

second period to bring the score to 3-1.

The third period proved to be trickier for New Trier when Providence scored off of a rush to make the score 3-2.

"The third period we were getting pressured heavily and almost gave up the lead a few times," said Senior Jack Raith.

However, in the last 27 seconds of the game, Graham scored an empty netter with an assist from Raith to seal the game at 4-2.

Despite the winning score, there were a few obstacles the team had to overcome to bring home the state title.

"Tommy Cahill was injured in the second period and couldn't finish the game, but everyone stepped up big when he went down," said Raith.

While the team brought passion to the game, they still had a calculated strategy to defeat their opponent. Throughout the beginning and the

middle of game, the team focused on having a strong offense that would consistently take shots on net.

"Our thought process was attack at all times and try and get as many chances and shots as possible," said Raith.

However, towards the final minutes of the game, the team's purpose was to maintain their lead and seal the state title.

"At the end of the game we just had the mentality to get the puck out of the zone and to hold the lead. We knew we could hold them off, and our team defense was awesome," said Mulhern.

While the team was confident they would win the game, they nonetheless felt the pressure in the third period when their lead was only a goal.

"We never doubted our ability to win, but when Providence scored to make it 3-2, we realized that it was a game again, and that we were going

to have to shut the door defensively. It was a close game with a lot of scoring chances, but our defense shut the door after their second goal. We all bought in an grinded out the win," said Mulhern.

Cahill echoed his teammates concerns about the tight score towards the end of the game.

"There was never a point that I had any doubts, but it was getting a little too close at the end of the game."

This win marked the end of a terrific season for the team, with a record of 67-9.

Green won the Nike Bauer Invitational Tournament, Chicago Showcase, Loyola Thanksgiving Tournament, Hoosier Cup, SHL President's Cup, and the coveted state championship. The team did not lose to a single school in the state of Illinois.

According to the New Trier hockey website, team manager Brad

Burton said, "With a 67-9 overall record and no losses to any Illinois team, this will go down as one of the best seasons ever for an Illinois hockey team."

For some, this game was the highlight of their high school hockey experience.

"I wasn't on the team last year so winning state this year made my hockey career," Cahill said.

The game will be a bittersweet memory for many of the players, as the victory symbolized more than just a state game. Instead, it represented the conclusion of some high school careers and team memories.

"I'm sad it's over but I had so much fun over the years, especially this year. I'll never forget these guys or what we accomplished. These guys are some of my best friends and I'm privileged to be able to say that I've gotten to play with all of them," Mulhern said.

Power lifting club tackles gender inequality in sports

In the sports industry, gender still influences ratings and treatment

by *Eleanor Kaplan*

Under the direction of strength and conditioning coach Jim Davis, Power lifting Club has been muscling toward gender equality in sports.

The club has written many letters to local and national news and sports networks asking for more coverage of women's sports in televised media.

Although forty percent of professional athletes are female, women make up less than 4% of media coverage, according to researchers at the University of Southern California.

Senior Zach Shonfeld said that in the letters, "We introduced ourselves to make [the letters] more personal, then we requested that they talk more about and cover gender inequality in sports."

Davis, who held a seminar on gender inequity in sports for International Women's Day, believes that this inequality begins after the high school and collegiate levels.

Once players leave school, sports and athletics are, "no longer an educational platform, [they are] a

business," he said.

Under law, men and women must have equal opportunities for government-funded sports programs, which include those in high school and college.

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 states, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

However, these rules only apply to the pre-professional levels. Once sports become businesses, the companies themselves decide the pay and opportunities available for their athletes.

Davis and his club found that "NBA players make about 50% of the overall income [total money earned by the team], while WNBA [players] make about 33% of the overall."

This difference in pay can be attributed to the difference in media coverage received, causing a cycle of inequality.

Some people believe that male sports are covered more by the media because more men watch sports. Davis explained that these tendencies for more men to watch sports are created by social norms that associate masculinity with sports.

"We fall back on excuses like that to explain why the divide [between the coverage of men and women] is enlarging, when really we should be aimed at closing it," he said.

From the years 1989 to 2014, media coverage of women athletes by Sportscenter has gone down from 3.2% to 2%, according to a study done by Michael Messner and Michela Musto of USC and Cheryl Cooky of Purdue University.

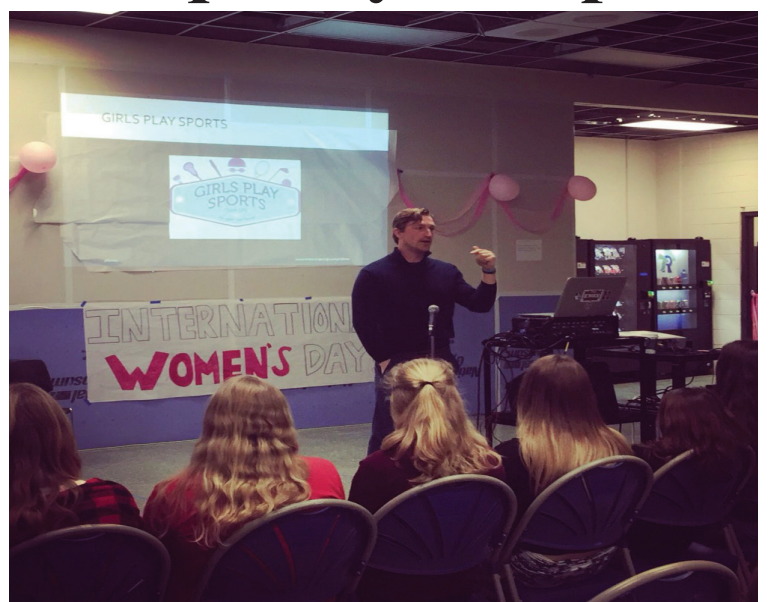
If coverage of women's sports increased, Davis believes that more women would watch televised sports. This would lead to higher pay for the athletes and a smaller income gap between genders.

Research done at Adelphi University indicates that women only earn 1.5% of the money that their male counterparts earn in basketball.

The average NBA player's salary is \$4.5 million a year, while the average WNBA player's annual salary is \$72,000.

Some people may argue that men receive more coverage because they are inherently better at sports. People who think this way have "a limited view of what an athlete is," Davis explained.

When one incorporates teamwork, tactical understanding, strategy, and sportsmanship in addition to physical ability, "then



Coach Jim Davis gives speech at International Women's Day | **@NTStrength**

there's no differentiation."

Sophomore Lexie Kaplan, a member of Girl Up and a cross country runner, agreed with Davis.

"We need to turn this perception around so people realize that women actually do fit the mold of an athlete and are just as talented as men are," she said.

Although professional-level sports have not reached gender equality yet, there have been numerous efforts to close the gap in the past few years. For example, 70% of sports tournaments now offer

the same prize money for men and women.

Power lifting club is doing its part to promote gender equality in sports. "We had a lot of different people write them [the letters] to show how passionate we are about the idea. It was a really cool opportunity," Shonfeld said.

Davis said of the letter-writing campaign, "Who knows if it will move the needle or not, but we will continue writing."