NEW

Upcoming Varsity Games

Fri, Sept. 19

Field Hockey @ Villa Duchesne

Girls Swimming Stevenson

Football @ Deerfield

Girls Volleyball @ McAuley

Sat, Sept. 20

Boys Soccer @ Lyons

Girls Tennis vs. Highland Park @ Nielsen Center

Girls Cross Country @ Libertyville

Boys Cross Country @ Libertyville

Boys Golf @ Mundelein

Monday, Sept. 22

Girls Volleyball Libertyville

Boys Golf vs. Maine South

Tuesday, Sept. 23

Field Hockey @ Oak Park River Forest

Girls Tennis @ Niles West

Boys Soccer @ Maine South

Girls Volleyball vs. Maine South

Girls Golf vs. Evanston

Boys Golf *@* Highland Park

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Soccer seeks first CSL title since '08



New Trier celebrates its win vs. Wheeling on Sept. 4 at home | Minturn

by Danni Leserve

The New Trier boys soccer team is off to a fast start this season with a record of 6-1-2.

They began the season 5-0 despite a tough schedule including games against Schaumburg, Mather, Fremd, Buffalo Grove, and Wheeling. Senior forward and leading goal scorer Duncan Gill is pleased with his team's success.

"The season has been going great so far. We have six wins one loss and two ties, and I'm happy with our start," said Gill.

The Trevians suffered their first

loss 4-2 on Sept. 4 against St. Charles East, a team ranked first in Illinois and sixth in the country.

"The game against St. Charles East was a close game and it really came down to the wire," said midfielder and senior captain Jamey Minturn.

Despite never holding the lead, New Trier clawed their way back in the second half. They pulled within one score on two brilliant goals from Gill, but senior midfielder Colin Egerter's effort to tie the game at 3 hit the crossbar.

St. Charles scored late in the second half on a free kick just out of

the reach of senior goalie Jonathan Jaggard, who played well all game.

The next contest came at home on Sept. 6 against Rolling Meadows. New Trier cruised to a 5-0 victory, with goals by Gill, junior Spencer Farina, and sophomores Matt Gallo, Louis Shaw, and Michael McCue. Head Coach Wes Molyneaux was proud of his team's effort.

"One of our strengths this year is our ability to score goals. We have a very good counter attack and we can score at anytime during the game," said Molyneaux.

The Trevians had a much tougher test on Sept. 9, hosting Glenbrook North at home. Goals from Gill and Farina were enough to force a 2-2 draw. Their next conference game resulted in another draw, 1-1 against Highland Park.

"The game against Highland Park was a tough one because we dominated them for most of the game and outplayed them and we thought that we deserved the win, but we're glad it's not a loss," said Gill.

With a talented and experienced team, the Trevians are looking forward to facing conference rivals Glenbrook South and Evanston.

Evanston will travel to New Trier on Sept. 30, which is a highly anticipated game because of the tradition of the fire hydrant.

The hydrant has been a tradition between the two teams for 30 years, with the winning school painting it their school colors and the players signing it.

Evanston has held the hydrant for the past four years and New Trier is looking to get it back.

"I'm really looking forward to playing Evanston. It's a huge rivalry and always a great game which I'm really excited to play in," Gill said.

Although it is early in the season, the team is already looking ahead. The team has not won the Central Suburban conference since 2008, but Molyneaux is very optimistic for this year's team.

"We have a lot of very tough teams in our conference. Most conference games are very physical and competitive games because of the rivalry that we have with the teams in our conference," said Molyneaux.

Minturn embodies the cool and confident mindset of this team.

"I think that this team has a great shot at winning conference and contending for a state title this year," said Minturn. "We've gotten off to a good start and I think that if we stay focused and play to our full potential, we can really make a deep run through the playoffs."

Rosenkranz leads XC in Peoria

by Joey Schuman

The pressure was on for a team that finished 6th at the state meet a year ago.

The New Trier boys varsity cross country team finished strong at its biggest meet to date Sept. 13 at historic Detweiller Park in Peoria.

The Trevians responded to high expectations with a 4th place finish in a field of 49 teams, and each runner in the varsity race set an individual best for 3 miles.

According to trevianxc.com, Senior Josh Rosenkranz led the team with a time of 14:50, followed by junior Jack Litowitz clocking in at 15:05. Senior Austin Santacruz, senior Nick Merrill, junior Ted Oh, senior Josh Greenberg, and junior Josh Derrick posted times of 15:18, 15:35, 15:36, 15:18, and 15:55, respectively.

It was a good showing for a Trevians team that will look to build on this performance as the season goes on.

Despite injuries to senior standouts Charlie Pearlman, Tarek Afifi, Om Kanwar and Luke Duros, head coach Dave Wisner believes that, at full health, he has a team that can eclipse the finish of last year's squad.

"It's going to take some time, but I think we're a better team," said Wisner.

Key to any success will be Josh Rosenkranz. The senior distance runner has recently proved himself to be one of the premier talents in the state of Illinois. His performance in the Trevians' intrasquad meet lived up to expectations, as he finished in the two-mile race with a time of 10:01, 11 seconds faster than the next finisher, according to trevianxc.com.

"I've been staying healthy, and getting sleep," said Rosenkranz. "Every year we lose people and then people step up. Last year the group was very hard-working, so we've been trying to emulate that."

Rozenkranz has the support of teammates and coaches as well.

"[Rosenkranz's] improvement in the last year has been phenomenal," said Wisner. "From where he was as a sophomore, to what he accomplished last year, and now he's almost gone to a whole other level, so I think Josh's expectations are going to be all-state this year and I think that's very realistic. Given the type of training he's done and the way he's raced, he's been fantastic."

"Josh Rosenkranz is leading the pack as our star runner this season. He's going to do big things," said senior captain Charlie Goldberg.

Also impressing at the intrasquad meet were senior Austin Santacruz, junior Ted Oh, senior Nick Merrill, and senior Charlie Maher, clocking in with two-mile times of 10:12, 10:22, 10:23, 10:31, respectively.

"Nick Merrill is a guy that I think is worth mentioning just because he's come so far," said Wisner. "He's had a lot of back injuries from when he played soccer and last December his lung collapsed. And he's one of our top varsity runners this year. What he's been able to do has just been amazing," said Wisner.

And, while Merrill has fully recovered from a slew of injuries, some of his teammates continue their healing processes. Pearlman, who also acts as a captain for the team, underwent hip surgery in the spring of 2014 and has just recently began upping his mileage during workouts.

According to Rosenkranz, prospects are bright if Pearlman, Duros, and other runners regain their health.

"If we can get everyone into consistently running well and doing good workouts, I think it'll all come together pretty nicely," said Rosenkranz.

The Trevians will need a fully healthy roster to overcome quality competition. According to Rosenkranz, York, Sandburg, Neuqua Valley, and Hinsdale Central (last year's state champion) all pose a threat to state championship hopes.

According to Goldberg, at the state meet Nov. 8 in Peoria (when the team is allowed to bring 12 runners instead of the usual 7), only one result will be satisfactory.

Goldberg said, "Our goal is a state championship."

Girls XC chemistry crucial in pursuit of state championship



Senior state champion Mimi Smith anchors a strong returning core | Smith

by Ben Portnoy

The girls cross country team placed two top-20 individual runners Sept. 13 at the First to the Finish invitational in Peoria, finishing third overall in a field of 38 teams.

Senior Mimi Smith finished fifth overall with a three-mile time of 17:20 and sophomore Cara Keleher clocked in at 17:45. The squad hopes to carry last year's momentum into this year.

"Last year was such a successful year for both the team and individual runners," noted senior cocaptain Ally Neumann, who's twin sister Sam is also a captain. "But I expect to see the same amount of positivity this year which will definitely contribute to another great season."

The Trevians, who finished third in the team competition at the state meet last year, are looking to build upon on that success into this coming season.

"We spent a lot of last year trying to find how we could compete with top teams," said head coach John Burnside. "It took about half the season to solidify the pack running mentality we were going to use. Now we've got that."

With returning individual state

champion Smith coming back for her senior season among other strong runners, the Trevians look poised for another strong showing at state.

"She's always brought a lot to the table" said co-captain Ainslie Martin. "And we hope for her to [compete at a high level] this year."

However, this team is about more than just winning. As a no-cut sport, the girls cross country team boasts one of New Trier's deepest rosters, carrying over 200 girls. Despite the number of runners, the girls team builds a true bond throughout the squad that brings a real sense of team spirit and pride to everyone involved.

"I'm making it a priority to know everybody's name in hopes of making our big team seem a little smaller and more personal," said Sam. "As a captain, it's my job to build team spirit and bring everybody a little closer together."

Twin sister Ally also stressed the importance of team chemistry, adding that her favorite team bonding activities "are the carbos every Friday before a meet on Saturday morning."

With a strong nucleus of returning runners and a team bond rivalimg most teams at New Trier, the girls cross country team is poised for success.