

FASTBREAK



LOIS BERNSTEIN/22ND CENTURY MEDIA

1ST-AND-3

TEAMS OF THE SPRING

1. **New Trier girls soccer (ABOVE).** The Trevs were dominant all season, especially in the playoffs, during which they shut out each of their opponents en route to their third straight state title.
2. **Loyola Academy girls lacrosse.** Speaking of pure dominance, the girls notched an almost unthinkable eighth straight state title.
3. **New Trier boys tennis.** Paced by Scott Bickel, who finished second in singles play, the Trevians brought home their third state title in seven seasons and the program's 21st overall.

ROAD TO GIRLS LACROSSE STATE FINAL

Ramblers squash Maine South in semifinal

TOMMY MANTICE
Freelance Reporter

Success for Loyola at the state tournament has become incredibly common.

The latest installment of its success came on June 1 as the top-seeded Ramblers advanced to the state championship game after beating underdog fifth-seeded Maine South, 16-4.

The Ramblers have made it to the state championship the past 11 years. However, the depth has made this team a very memorable one for coach John Dwyer.

The Ramblers had 26 different players receive minutes in the second half and only gave up one goal.

Eight different players scored for Loyola.

"It shows that everyone on this team works incredibly hard," Dwyer said. "It is not just the top 10 or 15 [players], it is all 27."

In fact, one of the most notable goals came from a player off the bench. Allie Thuet scored on a fast break. She was able to flip the ball over three defenders at midfield and reach the top left shelf for a goal.

"I might need to replace one of my knees, but I still jumped up for that one," Dwyer said. "It probably wasn't as high as our coaches or players. What a tremendous goal that was."

"I was so happy [when Thuet scored]," Libby

Germano said. "It was an awesome goal and everyone just went crazy."

Germano was able to come off the bench as well and score four goals for the Ramblers.

"It feels really good to contribute to the team," Germano said. "It's great, because we all make an effort and play well together. Everybody got to come in and play in this game, so we are feeling pretty good right now."

Loyola got out to a quick 4-1 lead early on in the first half and never looked back. They were also able to retain possession for the majority of the game. The Ramblers were able to dissect the zone defense the

Hawks threw at them.

Going into the game, Maine South had never reached the final four of the state tournament. They were able to upset fourth-seeded Glenbrook South to get to the state semifinals.

"I thought Maine South played great today," Dwyer said. "There is a team that busted onto the scene because of hustle. They have some special individual players, they play well together and they are well-coached. I thought they pressured us, and we made some mistakes because of it."

New Trier awaits the Ramblers in the state championship game, after completing a thrilling 9-8

comeback win over Hinsdale Central. The Trevians came back from being down 7-2 and took their first lead of the game with 2:20 to go.

"New Trier is an extremely well-coached team," Dwyer said. "They are a very formidable opponent and have a lot of talented kids. We know we have to play better than we did today."

The state championship game will be the final game for 12 Loyola seniors.

"I would like to see this group of seniors win the state championship," Dwyer said. "They won it as juniors, but this group hasn't won anything yet."

Trevs storm back in semifinal win over Hinsdale Central

JACK VITA, Editorial Intern

Midway through the New Trier-Hinsdale Central girls lacrosse state semifinal game on June 1 it felt as if history was about to repeat itself.

The two teams met 364 days ago in the exact same place, the state semifinals in Evanston, where Hinsdale Central buried New Trier, 8-2. The Red Devils would go on to lose to Loyola Academy in the state championship.

This season, with a 7-2

lead, Hinsdale Central was just 14 minutes away from forcing a rematch. That is, until the Trevians flipped the switch, which would result in a 9-8 New Trier victory.

The comeback was ignited by a Tace Sutherland goal, her second, with 13 minutes, 33 seconds remaining in the second half. Sophia King added another 90 seconds later, narrowing the gap to three.

Hinsdale Central's Megan Draddy fired back with a goal of her own

with 10:13 left, her second of the day. But it wouldn't matter.

New Trier's Lucy Murray caught fire when it mattered most. The freshman scored three goals in the final 7:40, including the equalizer. She would finish with four total.

Darby Tingue provided another, before Katherine Gjertsen would score the potential game-winner with 2:20 to play. But perhaps what was even more valuable to the Trevians' victory was how success-

fully Gjertsen executed her faceoffs in the second half, many of which led to game-shifting goals.

"The game of lacrosse is all about possession," senior midfielder Audrey Kingdom said. "And Gjertsen definitely stepped it up. She looked at me and was like, 'I figured it out, I know how to get this draw.'"

With its backs to the wall, New Trier pulled a bunny out of its hat and completed a magical comeback.

"I think our kids just never quit," New Trier head coach Pete Collins said. "They never quit. In the second half we just started to believe. The first half we didn't shoot very well. The second half we got the draws, we got the momentum, we played good defense the whole entire game. You tell me we will hold a team to eight goals, and I think we got a fighting chance to win. In that second half, I think we believed. We played smarter."

LISTEN UP

"I'm speechless, this is crazy."

Dani Kaufman — New Trier girls soccer goalie on winning a third straight state title with a 4-0 victory against Collinsville on Saturday, June 4

TUNE IN

What to watch this week

BASEBALL: The Wilmette Waves hit the diamond for some summer league action.

Waves host Morton Grove, 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 15, at Duke Childs Field, Winnetka.

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