

Friday, March 8, 2019

BOYS SWIMMING

DWM swimmers finish season at the state pool

MATT KANE **Sports Editor** MINNEAPOLIS - One relay team represented Delano/ Watertown-Mayer in the finals of an event at the Class A State Swimming and Diving Championships March 2 at the UofM Aquatic Center.

10A



On its final try one day earlier in the preliminary round, DWM finally claimed one of the eight finals lanes, doing so in the 400-yard freestyle relay. It took everything John Kenison, Bryce Borland, Nick Black and Colby Kern had to crack the top eight on the first day. The four Tigers combined for the time of 3:17.33 and eighth place in that preliminary swim. In the finals Saturday, they finished eighth with the time of 3:17.52.

Delano swam on the second day in all three relays. Three individual Tigers swam in a total of five events on the final day.

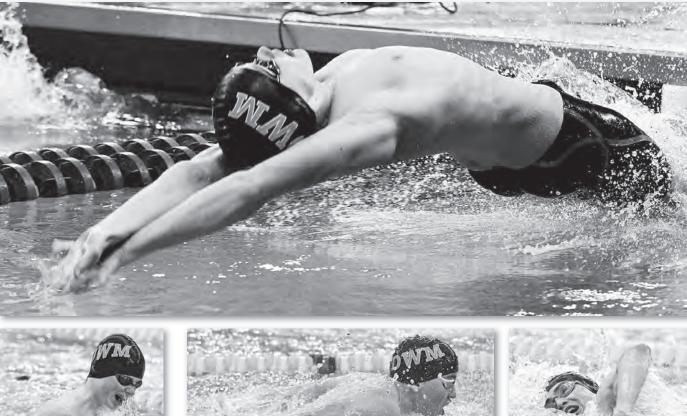
As an individual, Kern won the consolation heat of the 200 freestyle. His time was 1:47.95. He placed ninth overall.

In his second event, Kern finished 13th overall in the 100 butterfly with the time of 54.92 seconds.

Breck/Blake's Spencer Pruett won the 200 with the time of 1:42.40.

Winona's Grant Wolner won the butterfly with the time of 50.44 seconds.

Kenison finished 11th overall in the 200 individual med-



DWM's state tournament began with the 200-yard medley relay, featuring (top photo, then left-to-right) Nick Black, Gentry Nuytten, Joe Coyle and Bryce Borland. The quartet finished 13th with the time of 1:44.13. PHOTOS BY MATT KANE

was 2:00.96.

In his other solo event, Kenison finished 15th overall

ley. His consolation-heat time in the 500 freestyle. His time was 5:01.45.

Minnehaha Academy's Andrew Karpenko won the indi-





vidual medley with the time of 1:48.05. That time is a Class A record and is an automatic all-American time.

Karpenko set a state-record in the 100 breaststroke with the all-American time of 54.41 seconds.

Breck/Blake's Wu Niels won the 500 with the time of 4:43.31.

Black was Delano's third individual state swimmer. Black finished 15th in the 100 backstroke with the time of 56.07 seconds.

Anderson Breck/Blake's Breazeale won the backstroke with the all-American time of 49.05 seconds.

Kern and Kenison teamed up with Borland and Per Anderson in the 200 freestyle relay. The Tiger foursome finished 11th with the time of 1:31.12.

Breck/Blake won the 200 relay with the time of 1:27.59.

DWM's 200 medley relay team of Black, Gentry Nuytten, Joe Coyle and Borland swam in the consolation heat. They finished fifth in the race and 13th overall with the time of 1:44.13.

Breck/Blake set a Class A record with the automatic All-American time of 1:31.26 in the 200 medley relay.

CLASS A STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS Saturday, March 2

UofM Aquatic Center

Teams: 1. Breck/Blake 423; 13. Delano/Watertown-Mayer 65. Event Winners and Delano/WM

200 medley relay: 1. Breck/Blake, 1:31.26; 13. DWM (Black, Nuytten,

Coyle, Borland), 1:44.14. 200 freestyle: 1. Pruett (BB), 1:42.40;

9. Kern (DWM), 1:47.95. 200 individual medley: 1. Karpanko

(MA), 1:48.05; 11. J Kenison (DWM), 2:00.96. **50 freestyle:** 1. Herczeg (W), 21.02.

Diving: 1. Fritze (PR), 395.10.

100 butterfly: 1. Wolner (W), 50.44; 13. Kern (DWM), 54.92.

100 freestyle: 1. Herczeg (W), 45.38. 500 freestyle: 1. Niels (BB), 4:43.31; 15. Kenison (DWM), 5:01.45.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Breck/Blake, 1:25.93; 11. DWM (Kern, Borland, Anderson, Kenison), 1:31.12.

DWM's Per Anderson dives in over Bryce Borland to start the third leg of the 200-yard freestyle relay at the Class A state meet March 1 during the preliminary round.

PHOTO BY MATT KANF





John Kenison (top photo) and Colby Kern both swam in four events at the Class A state meet. Individually, Kenison finished 11th in the 200 individual medley and 15th in the 500 freestyle. Kern placed ninth in the 200 freestyle and 13th in the 100 butterfly.

100 backstroke: 1. A Breazeale (BB) 49.05; 15. Black (DWM), 56.07. 100 breaststroke: 1. Karpenko (MA), 54.41. 400 freestyle relay: 1. Breck/Blake,

3:06.46; 8. DWM (Kenison, Borland, Black, Kern), 3:17.52.

DELAND

PHOTO BY MATT KANE

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Lady Tigers squeezed by White Hawks in section quarterfinals

MATT KANE Sports Editor

MOUND - Delano led 23-21 at halftime of its Section 6-3A quarterfinal game at Mound-Westonka Feb. 27, but the Tigers could not hold on to keep their season alive.

The host White Hawks did just enough in the second half to take the game 51-47.

Mound-Westonka After took over the lead in the second half, a layup by Delano's Ellie Norling with eight minutes to play tied the game 36-36. The White Hawks quickly took the lead back.

The Tigers closed the deficit to one point, 43-42, with two minutes to go in the game, but Mound-Westonka answered with the next four points, and led 46-42 with one minute remaining in regulation.

Delano played that final minute without senior Morgan Frank, who fouled out.

Trailing by six points, 50-44, with 10 seconds to play, Delano coach Seth Potter called a timeout to draw up a play.

The plan worked, as Norling knocked down a 3-pointer to put the game in reach for the Tigers, 50-47. The Tigers got the quick foul they were after on the inbound play, and they were still alive when Mound-Westonka's Jennifer Schaible missed the front end of her trip to the free throw line.

Schaible, however, put the game out of reach by making the second free throw and



Delano coach Seth Potter draws up a play in the closing seconds of the Tigers section playoff game at Mound-Westonka. The play worked, but Delano still fell short, 51-47. PHOTO BY MATT KANE

pushing the deficit to four points.

The Tigers had the final shot, but only for show. The 3-pointer attempt from Macki Deters just before the final horn sounded was off the mark.

The loss cemented Delano's record at 5-20.

Schaible and Ela Springer both scored 13 points for the White Hawks.

Norling's 13 points in her final game led Delano.

Also for Delano, Olivia

Jaunich scored 11 points; Kaila Youngs 10; Kelly Peterson six; Deters and Ashley Brinkmann three each; and, in her final game, Frank scored one point before fouling out.

In the semifinal round March 2, Mound-Westonka was knocked out of the playoffs by No. 1 seed Robbinsdale Cooper 66-30.

No. 2 seed Waconia survived the other half of the bracket, and played Cooper for the section title Thursday night in Chanhassen.

In the earlier rounds, Waconia defeated No. Dassel-Cokato 67-30 and No. 3 Benilde-St. Margaret's 68-54.

SECTION 6-3A QUARTERFINALS

Wednesday, Feb. 27 Mound-Westonka High School **1 2** - **F** Delano 23 24 - 47 Mound-W 21 30 - 51 Scoring Delano: Norling 13, Youngs 10, Peterson 6. Deters 3. Brinkmann 3. Frank 1. Mound-Westonka: Schaible 13, Springer 13, Thurston 11, Drill 7, Wanner 5, Shelton



Tight quarters

Both defenses allowed little space to work in the paint for the opposition. Above photo: Delano's Morgan Frank (2) and Ashley Brinkmann (23) deny Mound-Westonka's Ela Springer a clean lane to the hoop; and, at left: Delano guard Macki Deters tries to squeeze through a pair of White Hawks on a drive through the lane.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE

Delano Herald Journal

Friday, March 8, 2019

DYBSA awarding two \$500 scholarships; application deadline is March 15

ball and Softball Association (DYBSA) announced it has established two \$500 scholarships to be awarded to graduating seniors who have participated in the DYBSA programs.

"Each year, the Delano Youth Baseball and Softball Association provides organized baseball and softball programs to approximately 500 area youth between the ages of 5-18 years old," said Bill Peterson, DYBSA President. "In addition to developing the baseball and softball skills of all association players, the DYBSA is also committed to empowering association participants to grow in the areas of leadership, sportsmanship and community involvement."

As a result, the DYBSA will reward the \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors who consistently displayed positive leadership and exceptional character, and excelled in the areas of academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community involvement.

"We're very excited about awarding these new scholarships for our area youth" said Dan Rasmussen, DYBSA Vice President "These scholarships aren't about recognizing the best baseball or softball play-

The Delano Youth Base- ers in our community. Instead, they are about recognizing DYBSA participants who have consistently exemplified their best selves - not just on the playing field, but more importantly in and around our community.

"Applicants only need to have played in our association a minimum of two years, regardless of level," added Meredith Huikko, DYBSA Board Member. "What we want to recognize with these scholarships are those participants who have consistently demonstrated good citizenship, positive leadership and exceptional character."

The deadline for applying for the DYBSA scholarships is March 15.

Applicants must be in their senior year of high school at Delano High School or reside within the Delano School District if attending a different high school. Upon graduating from high school, the applicant must attend a two- or four-year college or university, trade school or technical school.

For more information or to complete the application, visit dybsa.com and click on the "DYBSA Scholarship" tab located in the page header.

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Delano Sportsman's Club firearm safety training

Registration for firearm safety training is Monday, March 11, from 7-8 p.m. at the the Delano Sportsman's Club. There is no registration fee.

A parent or guardian is required to register each student. All registrations must be done

on site.

BUFFALO, MN SPORTS

This safety course is for students 11 years old and older. Adults are welcome.

Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning March 12

The class dates are March

MARINE

4.

Classes run from 7-9 p.m. Field day is Saturday, April 6, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

No firearms or ammunition are to be brought to classes by students. A firearm of some

landscape

structures

12, 14, 19, 20, 25, 28, April 2, type (rifle, shotgun, BB gun, etc.) will be needed for the field day for each student. Do not bring ammunition for this day. If you have no firearm, one will be provided.

Field day will take place rain or shine. Students should dress accordingly.

The firearm safety training course will cover hunter responsibility, firearms handling, marksmanship, wildlife identification, game management and game care, survival, water safety and first aid.

With questions, call Garret Sarkinen at 612-716-4614 or email Garret at garret. sark@hotmail.com.

16A



Delano Bantam B1 finishes third at district tournament

Delano's Bantam B1 youth hockey team placed third at the district tournament Feb. 24. With this finish, the team advanced to regional playoffs. The players are (front row, from left) Joe Nelson, Alex Schramel, Oliver Sturman, Gavin Drews, Kohlton Beck and Ethan Sturman; second row: Nick Truax, Cooper Nielsen, Aiden Leaver, Alex Pupp, Joe Scheck, Aaron Lewis and Karl Halonen; and back row: coaches Joey Jackson and Burleigh Biel. Not pictured are Kenny Beck and Kurt Truax. PHOTO BY MATT KANE



Delano Bantam A team to play at state

The Delano Bantam A hockey team won its district and regional championships. The team will compete at the state tournament March 15-17 in Moorhead. The team members are (front row, from left) Tommy Huotari, Patrick Kruse, Jake Oja, Gabe Jucha and Craig Halonen; second row: coach Nick Vatnsdal, Will Brown, Max Byrne, Anders Peterson, Jesse Peterson, Roger Rousu and head coach Lance Reynolds; and back row: coach Anthony Reynolds, Bruce Halonen, Nick Farniok, Cade Bruett, Gunnar Paulson and Cole Schmidt.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE

landscape structures

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To apply or for questions regarding our scholarship program, email recruiting@playlsi.com

anoheraldjournal.com | Delano Herald Journal Sports Friday, March 8, 2019 15 Tigers unable to hold on against Greenway Gernander was the first goal the tying goal on a perfect tip went through some tough

Sports

MATT KANE **Sports Editor**

ST. PAUL - Delano was unbeaten in its last 10 games (9-0-1) entering Wednesday night's Class A state quarterfinal game against Greenway/ Nashwauk-Keewatin at the Xcel Energy Center. That streak ended at 10, as the Tigers were upended 6-4 by the Raiders.

The Tigers took a 3-1 lead into the first intermission, but could not hold it, as the Raiders tied the game with two goals in the second. Delano came out jumping in the third, and regained the lead on Kory Dunnigan's second goal of the game seven minutes in. One minute later, however, Mitchell Vekich tied the game for Greenway, and, from there, the Raiders put the game away with two more in the third period.

"This is what a four-vsfive game is supposed to be," said Delano coach Gerrit vanBergen. "It was trending toward us, but, then, it trended away from us."

Defenseman Christian Miller scored the go-ahead goal on a slap shot from inside the blue line at 9:40, and forward Donte Lawson sealed the win for the Raiders with his second goal of the game, an empty-netter with 35 seconds to play in regulation. The two goals were the 34th and 35th of the season for Lawson. He had four points in the game.

Dunnigan's first goal started



Greenway's Donte Lawson and Micah Gernander celebrate Lawson's second-period goal against Delano Wednesday night in the Class A state quarterfinal game at the Xcel Energy Center. The Raiders put five pucks behind Tiger goaltender Aaron Kruse and added and empty-net goal in a 6-4 win.

the scoring at 7:11 of the first period. Twenty seconds later, defenseman Jack Keranen ton between the first and secmade it 2-0 in favor of the Tigers with a goal from down low.

Micah Gernander put Greenway on the board at 14:07 of the first period. Delano's Tommy Peterson scored with 52 seconds remaining in the first period to give the Tigers the 3-1 lead at the first intermission.

The game plan drawn up by Greenway coach Grant Clafond periods was a good one, as goals by Lawson (at 1:26) and Ben Troumbly (8:05) went unanswered by the Tigers until the third period.

Lawson assisted on the Gernander and Troumbly goals. His feed to Troumbly in the slot on a quick rush was perfectly placed.

The first-period goal by

allowed by Delano goaltender Aaron Kruse since Feb. 16, when Delano settled for a 3-3 tie with Mound-Westonka in the regular-season finale.

Kruse made 33 saves on 38 shots faced Wednesday night. That shot total accumulated by the Raiders was just 12 less than Kruse faced in three section-tournament games combined.

The increased shot total had a lot to do with Greenway's ability to get shots through Delano's defensive layers.

"Tonight, we had a really difficult time getting in front of pucks, and that is part of who we are. When you are not blocking shots, usually things are not going your way," said vanBergen. "We've played 29 games now, and they got pucks through the best out of (all) of our opponents."

The different-sized zone at the Xcel Energy Center played a factor.

'Greenway did an excellent job of getting pucks through from the point and utilizing the NHL-sized zone and the higher blue line. It was difficult for our wings to get in the lanes compared to what we are used to," said vanBergen. "Their forwards are relentless in creating traffic in front of the net and in getting sticks on pucks. That's what we saw on film and that's what we saw the first time we played them."

In the third, Vekich scored

Tschudi won the fifth-place

Tschudi was knocked out

match via an injury forfeit by

Mahtomedi's Jake Fitzpatrick.

of the championship bracket

by Simley's Ryan Sokol, who

went on to win the state title

and remain undefeated at 51-0.

West's Charlie Pickell (47-2)

at 5:56 of the championship

against Sokol with a 4-3 deci-

Tschudi got the match

Sokol pinned Mankato

off the toe of his stick, redirecting the puck over Kruse's shoulder. Miller lasered a slap shot through traffic for the game-winner after the puck squirted to the blue line on a failed wrap-around attempt by Nikolai Rajala. Greenway goalie Logan Wright made 21 saves

Delano's student section dressed in purple in honor of senior Marleeanna Dieterich, who was killed in an automobile accident four days earlier. Delano's players donned their orange uniforms, and honored their fallen classmate with purple laces in their skates and a helmet sticker with Dieterich's initials.

Greenway entered the state tournament off a mountainous high gained from a 3-2 doubleovertime win over state-power Hermantown in the Section 7A championship game. Topranked Hermantown had won the section title the previous nine seasons. The meeting at the state tournament was the second encounter between the Tigers and Raiders this season and the third in the past two seasons. During a holiday trip north to the Iron Range, Delano edged Greenway 4-3 Dec. 28. A season ago on that trip north, the Tigers were defeated handily 5-1 by the Raiders.

"This was a chance to right a wrong," said Clafton, Greenway's coach, when asked about the rematch with Delano. "We

times for six solid weeks and they were part of that group of teams that was taking it out on us. There was another little drive there."

Delano couldn't afford to dwell on the loss for long, as they laced up the skates again Thursday afternoon in the consolation semifinals. The Tigers played New Ulm at noon at 3M Arena at Mariucci.

Greenway moves on and will play Mahtomedi in the semifinals Friday afternoon at 1 p.m. St. Cloud Cathedral and East Grand Forks will meet in the first semifinal game Friday at 11 a.m.

Look for more from Delano's play at the state tournament in next week's edition.

CLASS & STATE TOURNAMENT Greenway 6, Delano 4

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Xcel Energy	Cer	nter			
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Delano	3	0	1	-	4
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6. G - Trouml	oly	(Law	/son	0,8	3:05
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9. G - Miller (
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Greenway: 3	9				
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Delano: Krus	ie 3	3			
Greenway: W	√rig	ht 2	1		

Tiger four all claim state medals

MATT KANE Sports Editor

ST. PAUL - For the first time, four state medals were claimed by Delano wrestlers at the state tournament.

Seniors Reier Sjomeling and Tanner Kroells, junior Edward Hajas, and sophomore Carson Tschudi represented Delano on both days of the Class AA tournament at the Xcel Energy Center, and all four returned home with medals.

Hajas took the highest step up the medal podium of all the Tigers. He claimed third place in the 220-pound weight division.



Cade Lundeen in the quarterfinals.

Following the loss to Sokol, Tschudi lost a 6-2 decision to Perham's Leighton Rach.

Tschudi started his tournament with a pin fall of Totino-Grace's Bryce Erkenbrack, at 1:11 of the match. His season record was 37-6.

Sjomeling battled his already-injured right shoulder in his quarterfinal match against Fairmont/Martin County West's Jaxson Rohman. The health of that shoulder was compromised by Rohman on a shot in the opening seconds of the match. After an injury timeout, Sjomeling finished the match, but could do little with one arm against the stronger Rohman.

132: Ryan Sokol (51-0), Simley 138: Tyler Schackle (44-6), Scott West 145: Carlos Ruffo (22-5), Kasson-Mant 152: Tim Stapleton (43-2), Waconia 160: Bennett Berge (42-4), Kasson-Mant 170: Isaiah Thompson (45-3), Detrot Lks 182: Patrick Kennedy (46-0), Kasson-Mant 195: Ty Moser (46-0), Perham 220: Danny Striggow (50-2), Orono Hwt: Daniel Kerkvliet (24-0), Simley Delano Results

120: Reier Sjomeling (25-9) placed 6th - Champ. Round 1 - Reier Sjomeling (Delano) 25-9 won by decision over Eddie Simes (Litchfield) 31-11 (Dec 3-2) - Quarterfinal - Jaxson Rohman (Fairmont-Martin County West) 47-4 won by major decision over Reier Sjomeling (Delano) 25-9 (MD 21-8)

- Cons. Round 1 - Reier Sjomeling (Delano) 25-9 won by major decision over Michael Loger (Totino-Grace) 25-24 (MD 13-2) - Cons. Round 2 - Reier Sjomeling (Dela

no) 25-9 won by fall over Hunt (Mahtomedi) 32-15 (Fall 3:38) Cons. Semi - Robby Horsman (Kasson-Mantorville) 35-11 won by major decision over Reier Sjomeling (Delano) 25-9 (MD 10-1) - 5th Place Match - Rocco Visci (Big Lake) 25-7 won by fall over Reier Sjomeling (Delano) 25-9 (Fall 5:31)

Kroells (145 pounds) and Tschudi (132) both finished fifth, and Sjomeling (120) finished sixth.

Kroells, Hajas and Tschudi all wrestled into the semifinal round of the championship bracket. Their semifinal losses all came to the eventual state champions.

Sjomeling was eliminated from championship contention in the quarterfinals.

Hajas finished his tournament with a 3-1 sudden victory over Perham's Dawson Kellogg in the third-place match. The win cemented Hajas' season record at 34-5.

It was the second time in the tournament Hajas defeated Kellogg. Both came via a sudden victory. In the quarterfinals a day earlier, Hajas used a 5-3 sudden victory to top Kellog.

After the first victory over Kellogg, Hajas was kept out of the championship match by Orono's Danny Striggow.

Striggow (50-2) defeated Hajas via an 8-0 major decision in the semifinals, and went on to win the state title with a 16-5 major decision over Kasson-Mantorville's Garsen Schorr (40-4) in the title match.

After the loss to Striggow, Hajas won a 5-2 decision over Becker's Brayden Weber in the consolation semifinals.

In the opening round of the tournament, Hajas pinned Pine City-Hinckley-Finlayson's

Delano junior Edward Hajas has his hand raised after defeating Perham's Dawson Kellogg in the quarterfinal round of the 220-pound bracket at the Class AA State WrestlingTournamentMarch 2 at the Xcel Energy Center. One day later, Hajas defeated Kellogg again, this time in the third-place match.

PHOTOS BY MATT KANE

final state-tournament appearance with a 4-1 decision over Hutchinson's Tucker Gifferson in the fifth-place match.

It was a rematch of the Section 2AA championship match, which was also won by Kroells.

Battling an injured shoulder, Kroells was edged by Kasson-Mantorville's Carlos Ruffo 11-9 in the semifinals and bumped to the consolation bracket.

Ruffo (22-5) won the 145pound state title with a 3-1



Kellen Schauer (54-1). It was Schauer's first loss of the season.

Kroells was bumped to the fifth-place match by a 6-3 loss to New Ulm's Sean Howk in the consolation semifinals.

On Friday, Kroells opened his tournament with a 10-1 Grace's William Jaeger, and, then, in the championship quarterfinals, finished off Thief River Falls' Jake Davis via a 13-2 major decision.

sion over Thief River Falls'

Rohman took the match by a 21-8 major decision.

Rohman (47-4) fell to Sim-

ley's Chase DeBlaere (50-2) 7-5 in the championship match.

Sjomeling's tournament was far from over following the quarterfinal loss. He wrestled four more matches.

Sjomeling responded to the semifinal loss with a 13-2 major decision over Totino-Grace's Michael Loger in the consolation first round. In the second round of the consolation bracket, Sjomeling pinned Mahtomedi's Hunter Wilsey at 3:38.

In his final two matches, Sjomeling was defeated via a 10-1 major decision by Kasson-Mantorville's Robby Horsman in the consolation semifinals; and was pinned at 5:31 of the fifth-place match by Big Lake's Rocco Visci.

Sjomeling's final tournament began Friday with a 3-2 decision over Litchfield's Eddie Simes.

Sjomeling finished his senior season with a 25-9 record.

CLASS AA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS March 2-3

Xcel Energy Center Class AA State Champions

106: Mason Gehloff (31-0), Waseca 113: Joey Thompson (51-2), Totino-Grace 120: Chase DeBlaere (50-2), Simley 126: Jake Svihel (57-0), Totino-Grace

132: Carson Tschudi (34-4) placed 5th

Champ. Round 1 - Carson Tschudi (Dela no) 37-6 won by fall over Bryce Erkenbrack (Totino-Grace) 24-22 (Fall 1:11) Quarterfinal - Carson Tschudi (Delano) 37-6 won by decision over Cade Lundeer (Thief River Falls) 49-2 (Dec 4-3) Semifinal - Ryan Sokol (Simley) 51-0 won by tech fall over Carson Tschudi (Delano) 37-6 (TF-1.5 3:26 (23-8))

Cons. Semi - Leighton Rach (Perham) 39-11 won by decision over Carson Tschudi (Delano) 37-6 (Dec 6-2)

- 5th Place Match - Carson Tschudi (Delano) 37-6 won by injury default over Jake FitzPatrick (Mahtomedi) 45-7 (Inj. 0:00)

145: Tanner Kroells (34-4) placed 5th

- Champ. Round 1 - Tanner Kroells (Delano) 34-4 won by major decision over William Jaeger (Totino-Grace) 33-20 (MD 10-1)

Quarterfinal - Tanner Kroells (Delano) 34-4 won by major decision over Jake Da vis (Thief River Falls) 46-7 (MD 13-2) - Semifinal - Carlos Ruffo (Kasson-Mantor ville) 22-5 won by decision over Tannel

Kroells (Delano) 34-4 (Dec 11-9) - Cons. Semi - Sean Howk (New Ulm Area) 45-3 won by decision over Tanner Kroells (Delano) 34-4 (Dec 6-3)

5th Place Match - Tanner Kroells (Delano) 34-4 won by decision over Tucker Giffer son (Hutchinson) 29-8 (Dec 4-1)

220: Edward Hajas (34-5) placed 3rd

- Champ. Round 1 - Edward Hajas (Delano) 34-5 won by fall over Justin Matson (Pine City-Hinckley-Finlayson) 22-14 (Fall 3:51) Quarterfinal - Edward Hajas (Delano) 34 5 won in sudden victory - 1 over Dawson Kellogg (Perham) 45-6 (SV-1 5-3) - Semifinal - Danny Striggow (Orono) 50-2

won by major decision over Edward Hajas (Delano) 34-5 (MD 8-0) - Cons. Semi - Edward Hajas (Delano) 34-

5 won by decision over Brayden Weber (Becker) 38-8 (Dec 5-2) - 3rd Place Match - Edward Hajas (Dela-

no) 34-5 won in sudden victory - 1 over Dawson Kellogg (Perham) 45-6 (SV-1 3-1)



match.

Delano's Carson Tschudi (photos from left), Tanner Kroells and Reier Sjomeling battle opponents in the quarterfinal round of the Class AA State Championships March 2 at the Xcel Energy Center. Tschudi and Kroells won these matches, and both went on to capture fifth-place medals — Tschudi at 132 pounds and Kroells at 145 pounds. FMCW's Jaxson Rohman took advantage of Sjomeling's injured right shoulder and won the quarterfinal match. Sjomeling went on to claim the sixth-place medal at 120 pounds.

major decision over Totino-

Kroells' final record for the

Justin Matson at 3:51 of the match.

Kroells ended his fourth and

Friday, March 8, 2019



Storylines

Inexperienced

14A

The 2017-18 Tigers finished with a 13-13 overall record, and were eliminated from the Section 2A playoffs in the first round via a 2-1 loss to Breck.

Only six players from the current Delano team played in that game a year ago. For them, it stood as the only postseason experience entering this year, as none of them were on the roster that played in the 2017 state tournament. For everyone else, playoff hockey at the varsity level was something they only watched or heard about.

This inexperience, however, did not mean these players didn't understand what playoff hockey was.

"These guys were the ones with their faces up against the glass during the section finals in '17 and in '16 and in '15 and in '13 — these kids were there," said Delano coach Gerrit vanBergen. "They knew what it meant, and they knew how badly they wanted to be the guy."

Becoming "the guy" was achieved by sacrificing all individualism for the sake of the team.

"Not one of these seniors was on the state tournament roster as sophomores. Not one. That is small-town, public school high school hockey at it's absolute best," said vanBergen. "When you have kids who work, humbly serve, commit to getting better, and they don't care if they get the spotlight, but are willing to do it for their brothers and their teammates and their school and their parents and their community; that's exactly what high school hockey is about," the coach said. "I'm so proud of these guys."

This style can be seen on the team's statistics sheet. Not one Tiger has 40 points for the season.

Including the section playoffs, senior Hogan Williams is Delano's leading scorer with 18 goals and 34 points. Sophomore Adam Brown has 17 goals and 33 points.

"This year, everybody is almost equal. You could switch around the lines however you want and we would be the same exact team," said Quinn Daly, who entered the state tourna-



No one player stands out as Delano's superstar on the ice this season, but Delano coach Gerrit vanBergen says the team is made up of "teammate superstars." One player vanBergen singled out in that role is backup goaltender Cade Lommel.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE

ment with 13 goals and 28 points. "We all have the same plan, and we all know how to execute the plan. Number-one goal is sacrificing ourselves for the team."

There are no individual superstars on the Delano roster, one could argue. At least not on the score sheet.

"We have a lot of teammate superstars. I know that sounds corny, but the way we played (against Orono) — when you block shots and are willing to give the puck up because that is the play that needs to be made — it's true," said vanBergen.

Many of those players who vanBergen noted had their "faces up against the glass during the section finals" may not have been on the ice during those games, but they spent countless hours on the ice with the players from the 2017 team — during practice and on their backyard rinks and ponds.

Eight players on the current state roster had a brother or cousin or both on that previous state-tournament team. Another watched his dad build the success of the program.

"It's been a dream since I was a

The angles one can take when writing about Delano's run to the state hockey tournament are numerous. Here are a few that come to mind

little kid. All the years I watched my dad coach, hoping the teams he coached would go to the X," sophomore Adam Brown said, referring to his dad Steve Brown's 19 seasons as the Tigers' coach. "Now I'm living it. I'm the one going, and we are going to have fun."

Unexpected

There was never a question of whether Delano would play competitive hockey this season, but, considering this year's squad had little biggame experience and no blue-chip players, a run to the state tournament seemed unlikely in most people's minds.

The success of the Bantam teams in the youth system had many in the local hockey association believing the ceiling was high beginning next season, when those Bantams move up to the high school level.

"At the beginning of the season, everybody was underestimating us. Nobody was talking about us at all," said senior forward Quinn Daly. "Proving everybody wrong is awesome."

The lack of belief in the Tigers stemmed from the team's play early on. Delano lost five of its first seven games, scoring one goal or less six of those games. The Tigers were 2-6-1 entering the holiday break.

The boys in the locker room however, knew they were better than that start.

"We had been saying all year, 'Don't sleep on the Tigers," said sophomore forward Adam Brown. "Now, we showed people that we could do it. We were the team that could make it. It takes a lot of heart, and a lot of fight and pain."

Turning point

Outside of the games played on the ice, the time spent with teammates and families is an important part of a holiday tournaments for a team. That seems to have been the case this past December, when Delano traveled to the Iron Range for a three-game road trip.

The Tigers went 2-1 on the trip, opening with wins over Hibbing/ Chisholm (8-2) and Greenway (4-3)



Senior goaltender Aaron Kruse stayed cool under pressure in three shutouts during the Section 2A playoffs. Kruse's play on the ice mirrors his leadership in the locker room, according to Delano coach Gerrit vanBergen.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE before falling to Virginia/Mountain Iron-Buhl.

The Tigers moved to 5-7-1 for the season with the showing up north. Since then, Delano had gone 13-2-1 entering the state tournament.

According to coach vanBergen, something happened after that win over Greenway.

"There was a different atmosphere in the locker room after we beat Greenway," the coach said. "We sort of had our eyes on Greenway — they beat us bad the year before, dismantled us. (This year) we played a game similar to (the Orono game). We didn't have as many shots, but we locked down and played simple hockey. Our habits were really good that night, and they were really good (against Orono), and they were really good against Minneapolis.

"That win over Greenway told us we can beat a top-10 team; that we belong in that conversation. I think these guys knew it, but they had to feel it."

The Tigers stumbled a few times the rest of the way, but figured things out and played their strongest hockey in February.

The Tigers fell 6-0 to St. Cloud Cathedral and a 7-3 to Orono, both at home. The Tigers picked themselves up after the Orono loss, and rattled off seven straight wins, including a 3-2 win at Orono.

"It all started when we lost to them early in the season," Brown said of the build-up to meeting Orono for the section championship. "Second time, we beat them 3-2. Kind of the same thing as this game; we knew we had to fight through it; fight through the tough times."

Hot goaltender

Remember earlier in this story coach vanBergen's comment about "superstar teammates?"

When talking about the great play of starting goaltender Aaron Kruse, vanBergen went on a rant about the Tigers' backup goalie, junior Cade Lommel.

"Cade Lommel is arguably the best teammate I have ever coached," said vanBergen. "He is so excited for Aaron to start, and so excited for when Aaron is playing well. Teammates like that allow Aaron to play so well."

And play well, Kruse has done.

Kruse stopped all 50 shots he faced in the Section 2A playoffs, including 30 in the Tigers' 2-0 win over Orono in the title game. He entered the state tournament with six shutouts, a 13-6-1 record and a 2.47 goals against average.

Not bad for a kid who was stuck behind standout goalie Jackson Hjelle the past two seasons.

"He probably deserved more time, but Hjelle was a top-notch goaltender," vanBergen said of Kruse. "For him to wait and to work and to be patient and to support Hjelle through the process, and now for his time to come; man, that's what it's all about. That's what high school hockey is all about."

Kruse, vanBergen says, is one of those superstar teammates who has become a superstar player.

"Aaron is a phenomenal leader. He stands out as the leader in our group. We have a lot of leaders in a lot of different ways, but Aaron is the one who has risen. He is our pulse."

"Over the last month, I feel Aaron's play has been as awesome as his leadership. That is so special."

Cinks to 2017

Not one of the players on this year's state-tournament roster was on the roster of the team that went two seasons ago. However, the current seniors knew that team well, having practiced with those players during the season and having watched the games during that unprecedented playoff run. The link between the teams also runs deep through the bloodlines of nine current players



riod, Daly got his stick tangled

in the feet of an Orono player

and was flagged two minutes

The Tigers survived being

one skater down the rest of

the first period and killed the

Spartan power play complete-

lyin at the beginning of the

"In the first period, I don't

"I tried to get it the first time

know if we wanted to be the

guy, yet, but, when we hit that

for tripping.

second period.

BOYS HOCKEY

Tigers ride shutout of Orono to state berth

MATT KANE **Sports Editor**

ST. LOUIS PARK - Fans filled the bleachers and lined every spot of open glass around the rink at the St. Louis Park Rec Center Feb. 28 for the Section 2A championship game.

A typical scene whenever and wherever Delano and Orono meet on the ice, but, this time, the stakes were much higher. For the first time, the meeting between the Tigers and Spartans was for the section's bid into the state tournament.

After 51 minutes of game time, it was the Delano fans roaring in a frenzy of excitement as the Tigers on the ice raised the section-championship trophy following a 2-0 win.

This is the second section championship and state trip for the Tigers. The first was that 2017 trip, for a team that was expected to play at the Xcel Energy Center.

"It's incredible. It's crazy," said Delano senior goaltender Aaron Kruse after handing off the championship trophy to a teammate. "I don't know what to say; it's insane."

Kruse's play did plenty of talking for him. The 30 saves against Orono produced his third shutout performance in as many section games.

Kruse opened section play with 12 saves in the Tigers' 5-0 win over Southwest Christian. In the semifinals, he made 12 saves in a 3-0 shutout of Minneapolis.

"Aaron stands out. He made in the neighborhood of five or six what we deam impossible saves," said Delano coach Gerrit vanBergen.

Against Orono, Kruse stoned three prime chances in the second period, and split his way to an epic right-pad save in the third to keep the Spartans off the scoreboard.

"I don't know," Kruse answred when asked about that pad save in the third period. "The puck went to the side, and I just remember sticking out my leg, and (the puck) hit it. That's all I remember."



In the second period, Kruse calmly gloved the puck on Nick Mohs-Messerli's point-blank shot to freeze the puck with 7:44 to play in the period. Two minutes later, Kruse went the other way, sliding left-to-right, reaching out his blocker hand, and, finally, extending his stick to intercept the puck on a backhand shot by jamie Bazil.

"That's just a matter of throwing anything at it," Kruse said. "Not much else you can do there

When the whistle blew seconds later, Bazil stood with his hands on his knees, shaking his head in disbelief. Kruse's play kept the Tigers

in the game, especially early on.

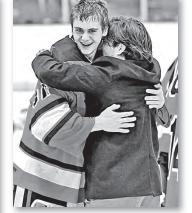
Orono out-played Delano for much of the first period - outshooting the Tigers 12-6 — but a penalty late proved costly for the Spartans, as it resulted in the only goal that ultimately

mattered.

From a tight angle to the right of the goal, Hogan Williams one-time the pack past Orono goalie Finn Grandy at 10:41 to give the Tigers a 1-0 lead.

Quinn Daly fed Williams perfectly. Luke Truax had the second assist.

Daly was derectly involved in a key turning point in the game, although not in a way he would want to be. With 28 sec-



Senior goaltender Aaron Kruse receives a deep hug from head coach Gerrit van-Bergen (above) following the 2-0 shutout of Orono Feb. 28 in St. Louis Park; and moments later skates the Section 2A trophy toward the Delano student section to celebrate. PHOTOS BY MATT KANE

ferring to a failed first attempt at an empty-net goal. "The puck came back to me, when I was at the end of a shift, and I just sent it down and hoped for the best. I got the best."

The goal set off a wave of celebration, starting with Brown and the players and coaches on the bench and flowing throughout the arena through everyone wearing Delano colors.

"I knew it was going in, right when he shot it," Daly said. "I was like, 'Oh, my God, we are going to state."

Delano's two goals came on just 15 shots on goal. The Tigers managed just two shots on goal in the third period. The dump-and-chase style Delano used factored greatly into the reduced shot total.

SECTION 2A FINAL Delano 2, Orono 0 Thursday, Feb. 28 St. Louis Park Rec Center 3 Delano Orono 0 0 0 0 Scoring First Period 1. D - Williams (Daly, Truax), pp, 10:41 Second Period No scoring Third Period 2. D - Brown (unassisted), en, 16:40 Shots on goal Delano: 15 Orono: 30 Saves Delano: Kruse 26 Orono: Grandy 13





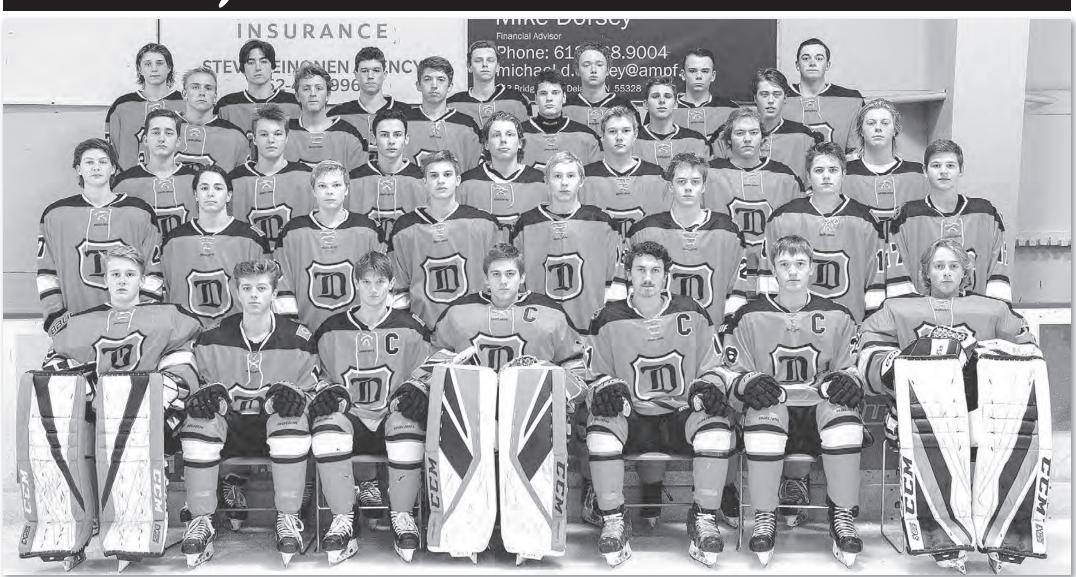
A power play and an empty net; that describes Delano's two goals against Orono Feb. 28 in the Section 2A championship game at the St. Louis Park Rec Center. Top photo: Hogan Williams celebrates his power-play goal in the first period; and above: Adam Brown captivates everyone in the building with this long-range shot late in the game. The puck found its way across the goal line for the empty-netter that sealed the 2-0 win for the Tigers.

PHOTOS BY MATT KANE

Delano hockey support brought to you by the following sponsors



Congratulations, TIGERS HOCKEY



The 2018-19 Delano boys hockey team includes: front - Colin Rowbotham, Hogan Williams, Luke Truax, Aaron Kruse, Garrett Durst, Quinn Daly, Cade Lommel; second row - Michael Weber, David Dorsey, Will Scheck, Ben Tormanen, Tyler Selstad, Ben Williams, Trevor Oja, Jake Marciniak; third row - Mark Halonen, Jack Keranen, Owen Hargarten, Colin Pettit, Brad Pinoniemi, Joe Blanchard, Parker Mittelstaedt; fourth row: Adam Brown, Colin Lommel, Chase Halonen, Tommy Peterson, Nate Hanson, Chad Halstead; back - Cody Christenson, Chuck Campion, Kory Dunnigan, Braeden Collings, Gavin Carson, Kurtis Schumacher, Aidan Stigman; not pictured manager Jon Kraus.

PHOTO BY LINDSAY VAN BERGEN

DELANO BOYS HOCKEY STATE ROSTER

2018-19 DELANO BOYS HOCKEY SCHEDULE

#	Name	Pos.	Grade	Date	Opponent	Result	Sat., Feb. 2	Hutchinson*	W 2-1 OT
С	Jack Keranen	D	10	Fri., Nov. 23	at Thief River Falls	L 5-1	Tues., Feb. 5	at Litchfield/DC*	W 5-3
3 6	Colin Pettit	D	10 10	Sat., Nov. 24	at East Grand Forks	L 4-1	Sat., Feb. 9	Minneapolis	W 2-0
7	Kory Dunnigan	F	10	Thurs., Nov. 29	at Breck	L 4-1	Tues., Feb. 12	New Prague*	W 2-0
8	Brad Pinoniemi	F	10	Tues., Dec. 4	Bloomington Kenney	W 11-1	Fri., Feb. 15	at Orono*	W 3-2
11	Garrett Durst	D	12		-				
12	Hogan Williams	F	12	Sat., Dec. 8	at Buffalo	L 5-0	Sat., Feb. 16	at Mound-Westonka*	T 3-3
13	Adam Brown	F	10	Tues., Dec. 11	Chanhassen	T 2-2			
14	Tyler Selstad	F	10	Sat., Dec. 15	Holy Family Catholic*	L 7-1	SECTION 2A		
15	Tommy Peterson	F	12	Tues., Dec. 18	at Waconia*	W 7-1	Thurs., Feb. 21	vs. Southwest Christian	W 5-0
17	Jacob Marciniak	F	11						
18	Trevor Oja	F	10	Fri., Dec. 21	at Monticello	L 6-3	Sat., Feb. 23	vs. Minneapolis	W 3-0
21	Joseph Blanchard	F	12	Thurs., Dec. 27	at Hibbing/Chisholm	W 8-2	Thurs., Feb. 28	vs. Orono	W 2-0
22	Chuck Campion	D	11	Fri., Dec. 28	at Greenway/Nash-Keew.	W 4-3			
24	Chase Halonen	F	12	Sat., Dec. 29	at Virginia/Mt. Iron-Buhl	L 7-3	STATE TOURNAM	1ENT	
27	Michael Weber	F	11						
28	Quinn Daly	F	12	Thurs., Jan. 3	Mound-Westonka*	W 5-0	Wed., Mar. 6	vs. Greenway/Nash-Keew.	L 6-4
30	Aaron Kruse	G	12	Tues., Jan. 8	at Hutchinson*	W 4-2	Thurs., Mar. 7	vs. New Ulm	W 2-1
33	Colin Lommel	D	9	Sat., Jan. 12	Litchfield/DC*	W 3-2 OT	Sat., Mar. 9	vs. North Branch	
35	Cade Lommel	G	11						
39	Luke Truax	D	12	Tues., Jan. 15	St. Cloud Cathedral	L 6-0			
				Fri., Jan. 18	at New Prague*	W 5-1	*Wright County C	Conference Games	
	Kraus, Mark Halonen - mg	rs.		Tues., Jan. 22	Orono*	L 7-3			
	Rowbotham - video			Fri., Jan. 25	Waconia*	W 5-1			
Heac	l coach: Gerrit van Berger	٦		111., Jall. 2J	Wacollia	VV J-1			
Accie	tant coaches: Ron Guild	Kovin Joh	ncon Roh-						

Assistant coaches: Ron Guild, Kevin Johnson, Rob-

ert Stocker, Chad Wagner

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Sports

Friday, March 8, 2019

BOYS BASKETBALL

Tigers breeze past Chargers in playoff opener

MATT KANE **Sports Editor**

DELANO - The run to repeat as Section 5-3A champions and state champions began Tuesday night for Delano.

The Tigers opened the playoffs with a 73-26 win over Dassel-Cokato at the Tiger Activity Center.

Delano is the No. 1 seed for the tournament. Dassel-Cokato was No. 8.

The Delano players and coaches wore purple warm-up shirts in memory of their senior classmate, Marleena Dieterich, who was killed in a traffic accident Saturday morning.

The game, itself, was never in doubt. Delano led 47-14 at halftime, and turned the running-time clock on in the second half.

Both coaches cleaned off the bench. Fourteen Tigers played in the game. Eleven scored.

Delano's Keagen Smith led all scorers with 18 points. Derek Techam finished with 15 for the Tigers.

Senior Max Otto scored six points and had 16 rebounds.

Sanders Asplin led Dassel-Cokato with 15 points.

The win puts Delano in the semifinal round, which is Friday night at St. Michael-Albertville. Due to the predicted weather for Saturday, the boys semifinal basketball section game is moving to Friday night at St. Michael Albertville High School.

The Tigers (18-9) play No. 4 Big Lake (12-15) at 6 p.m.

Big Lake defeated No. 5 Becker 62-42 in the quarterfinals Tuesday night.

In the regular season meeting, Delano topped Big Lake 57-44 Dec. 20.

In the second semifinal game Saturday night, No. 2 Willmar (15-12) plays No. 3 Monticello (12-15) at 7:45 p.m.

In the quarterfinals Tuesday, Willmar defeated No. Zimmerman 71-62, and 7 Monticello defeated No. 6 Rocori 67-64.

Holy Family 59,



sition after pulling down a rebound late in Tuesday night's Section 5-3A quarterfinal game against Dassel-Cokato. Wiest scored two points in what was his final game at the Tiger Activity Center. The Tigers won the game 73-26. They play Big Lake in the semifinals Friday night at STMA.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE

VICTORIA – The regular season ended with a five-game skid for Delano.

The fifth loss came at the hands of the Holy Family Fire, who edged the Tigers 59-57 at Holy Family High School.

Derek Techam scored 34 points for the visiting Tigers, and Max Otto pitched in 12, but no other Delano player scored more than four points. "We could never really get

on track on offense the whole night," said Delano coach Terry Techam.

The Tigers led 23-22 at halftime and built a lead of eight points in the second half, but could not hold on.

"Holy Family quickly erased the lead, and they were able to make a few more plays down Techam.

Otto complimented his 12 points with 18 rebounds.

Nick Hendler led Holy Family with 21 points.

Also for the Fire, Ryan Bowlin scored 15, and Reid Stark scored 14.

The outcome made for a split of the two-game season series. Delano won its home game

against Holy Family 79-56 Feb. 1.

Holy Family hosted Watertown-Mayer in the Section 5AA quarterfinals Thursday night.

SECTION 5	-3A	QUA	RT	ERF	INA	LS
Tuesday, M	arch	5				
Tiger Activi	ty Ce	ente	r			
	1	2	-	F		
DC	14	12	-	26		
Delano	47	26	-	73		
Scoring						



conference at (-) North Branch Wayne State College Wayne

State Col-

2019 Class A State Hockey Tournament

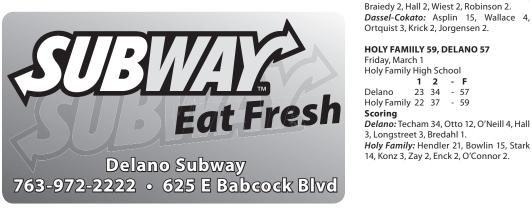
0 Wed., March 6, 11 am at Xcel Energy Center

St. Cloud Cathedral

11A

Delano 57

the stretch than us," said coach



Delano: Smith 18, Techam 15, Longstreet 8, Bredahl 8, Otto 6, O'Neill 6, Link 4, Braiedy 2, Hall 2, Wiest 2, Robinson 2. Dassel-Cokato: Asplin 15, Wallace Ortquist 3, Krick 2, Jorgensen 2.

1 2 - F 23 34 - 57



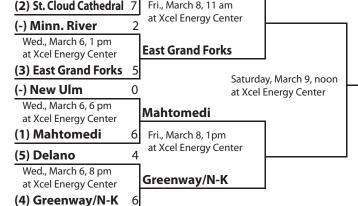
NSIC All-Conference Women's Basketball First Team.

Norling, a 5-11 sophomore forward from Loretto, led Wayne State in scoring this season, averaging 15.2 points per game. She averaged 5.5 rebounds. Norling ranked eighth in the NSIC in scoring, third in minutes played per game (34.3), was tied for eighth in steals per game (1.7), 14th in assists (2.8), and 15th in free throw percentage (.783/101-129).

Norling recorded double figures in 27-of-29 games this season and had three double-doubles.

In 22 NSIC games, Norling accounted for 15 points and 4.9 rebounds per contest. She recorded 10 or more points in 21-of-22 games.

Wayne State College finished with a 15-15 record. Norling is a 2017 graduate of Delano High School.

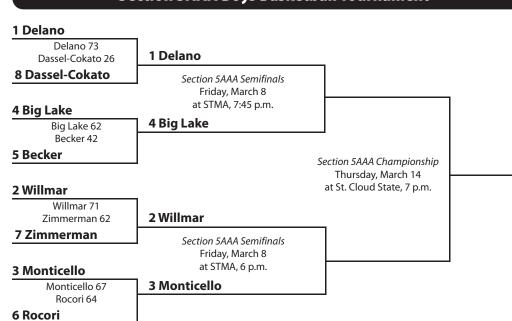


Third Place

Saturday, March 9 at Xcel Energy Center, 9 am

Consolation

North Branch	5	
Thurs., March 7 at UM Mariucci, 10 am		North Branch
Minn. River	2	Saturday, March 9
New Ulm	1	at UM Mariucci, 9 am
Thurs., March 7 at UM Mariucci, noon		Delano
Delano	2	





Section 5AAA Boys Basketball Tournament