



Plans for two housing developments advance

GABE LICHT
Editor

Two different neighborhoods with up to 352 residential lots have been proposed for the city of Delano. The Delano City Council approved

concept plan reviews for a 99-acre development and a 68-acre development.

Laketown Homes

In January, the city annexed 68 acres along Wright County Road 16 east of the

Fox Meadows subdivision.

The concept plan shows 93 single-family lots on 34.6 acres, with the remainder of the property in the floodplain or being set aside for parkland.

In the comprehensive plan, this land is

guided for low to medium density residential property, and the proposal meets that standard.

Developers proposed interior lot sizes between 8,173 square feet to 25,518 square feet, compared to the city's re-

quirement of 9,000 square feet. For corner lots, sizes of 8,964 square feet were proposed, compared to the city's requirement of 10,800 square feet.

see DEVELOPMENTS, 6A

Ring Man



The Stanley Cup win by the Washington Capitals this past summer made a champion out of Delano's A.J. Toews

MATT KANE
Sports Editor

DELANO — Along with pride and prestige, winning a championship in a professional sport also awards a lot of bling for those fortunate enough to accomplish such a feat.

The most recognizable trophy in professional sports is the Stanley Cup, the 34.5-pound, 35.25-inch silver icon that is passed on from team to team at the end of each season to the new champion of the NHL.

The Stanley Cup, which is the oldest existing trophy awarded to a professional team, is currently in the hands of the Washington Capitals, who defeated the Vegas Golden Knights in five games for their first championship.

The Cup, itself, gets all the attention as it makes its trip around the globe with each player, coach, executive and team employee, and for good reason. But, sometimes lost in the glare when it comes to hockey is the sparkling bling wrapped around the fingers of those men and women who are hosting their day with the Cup. Like champions of the World Series, Super Bowl and NBA Finals, Stanley Cup winners also get a customized championship ring.

The state of Minnesota has been paid numerous visits by the Stanley Cup, and it has seen plenty of its native sons walk around with championship rings. Now, thanks to that Capitals victory, the small town of Delano has its NHL champion.

The ring belongs to Delano resident A.J. Toews, who is in his 10th season as an amateur scout with the Capitals.

"They were really generous with the rings, and they got all of our wives pendants that look like the top of the ring," said Toews.

Toews received his ring with the other team scouts at a banquet in Washington, DC Oct. 2, one day after the players and coaches received theirs, and one day before he watched the Capitals raise their championship banner to the rafters at Capital One Arena and open the 2018-19 season with a 7-0 win over Boston.

"We had a cool dinner and they had the rings in an acrylic box with LED lights shining on it," Toews said.

The significance of the ceremony

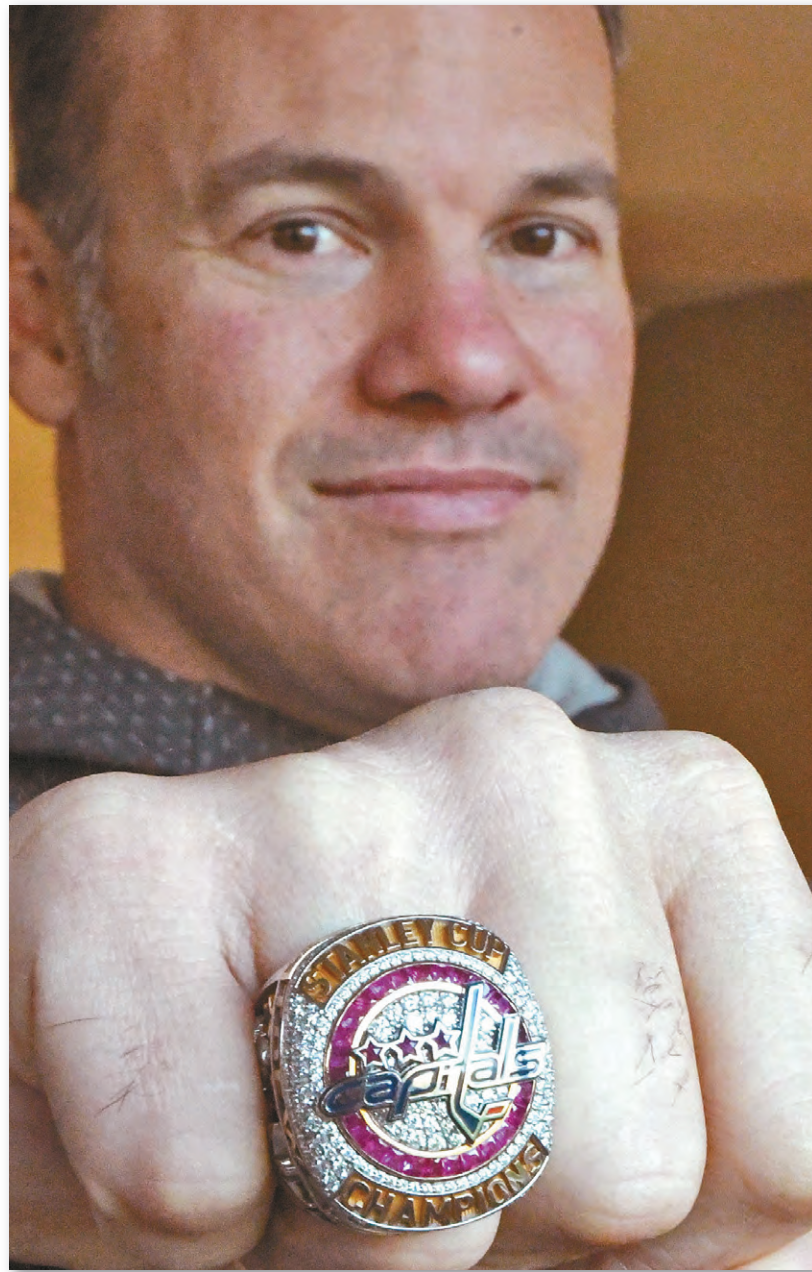


PHOTO BY MATT KANE

The Washington Capitals didn't cut any corners when it came to designing the organization's first Stanley Cup ring. A.J. Toews shows off the ring he received at a ceremony Oct. 2 in Washington DC.

left the room silent.

"We are a pretty loud group with a lot of type-A guys who like to talk a lot. It was deftly silent in the room," Toews said. "It was the same feeling I had when I looked at the Cup — 'Gosh, I am part of a team that won this thing.' I looked at it to make sure my name was on the side of this thing."

And, like many others, Toews said

he repeatedly closed and then opened the box again to assure himself he wasn't dreaming.

It was an emotional evening. "We stared at it awhile, and some guys got up and talked about their journey," Toews said. "We have guys on staff who have been there over 20 years. They have gone through the highs of getting to the Stanley Cup

finals and losing to Detroit. Then to blowing up the team and selling off everything and being terrible for awhile, to drafting and building through the draft up until now."

Drafting players is the direct link connecting Toews and his fellow scouts to the Stanley Cup win.

"We always say, 'On a Stanley Cup championship team, where does he play?' It seems far off, but this year it happened. We saw a Stanley Cup championship team," Toews said of how he views prospective draft picks when scouting players.

As one might expect, the championship ring, which is made by Minnesota's own Jostens, is impressive, in both its size and makeups.

Brace yourself: The 14-karat white and yellow gold ring features 230 round diamonds and 22 princess cut diamonds. The red ring around the Capitals logo on the ring top is made of 28 custom taper-cut rubies and seven custom-cut star-shaped rubies. The inside band of the ring is engraved with the Capitals logo and the scores from each playoff series win — over Columbus, Pittsburgh, Tampa Bay and, finally, Las Vegas. The total weight of the ring is 10.2 carats.

The wives' pendants match the face of the ring.

"The pendant was a very nice acknowledgement by the team of the women standing behind the men," said Crystal Toews. "Behind every great man. . . Right?"

So, where does one keep such a piece of jewelry?

"That is a good question. Do you keep it in a safe, do you keep it in a safety deposit box, do you hide it in a sock nobody would think to look, do you hide it in a dirt hole in the backyard? We don't know. We have to figure that out," Toews said with a laugh.

One person Toews can ask when it comes to what to do with a championship ring is his own father, Loren Toews.

Loren Toews has had to figure out that answer for himself four times, thanks to the four Super Bowls he won as a linebacker on the Steel Curtain defense of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

see RING MAN, 16A



Delano City Hall's prescription drug take-back receptacle is available every weekday.

PHOTO BY GABE LICHT

The pill collector

GABE LICHT
Editor

Saturday, Oct. 27 is National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, an occasion sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration, in which local law enforcement agencies collect unused and unwanted prescriptions.

Every weekday is drug take-back day at Delano City Hall, which houses a prescription drug take-back receptacle.

"We had a box installed in the spring of 2017 with funds from the Wright County Sheriff's Office," said Nick Neaton, Delano Senior Center and community services coordinator.

The city modeled its box off of one at St. Michael City Hall, which Neaton said is used frequently.

He described the use of the Delano drop box as moderate.

Increasing its use would have a number of benefits, he said.

"The main idea is to keep prescriptions out of the hands of people who want to abuse them and to keep them out of the water supply," Neaton said. "That was a major thing, too. By flushing them or dumping them down the drain or something, it's contaminating things. There have been big issues with that in other towns."

The Wright County Sheriff's Office echoed that sentiment with a social media post promoting the national drug take-back event.

see DRUGS, 6A

PUBLIC NOTICES, 10A

- Public accuracy testing: cities of Delano, Loretto
- Election notice and ballots: Delano Schools, city of Delano
- General election notice: Loretto
- Delano School Board minutes

INSIDE THE DHJ: COMMUNITY 2-3A | SCHOOLS 6A | VIEWPOINTS 9A | OBITUARIES 9A | SPORTS 10-16A | CLASSIFIEDS 1-4C

HAPPENINGS

See page 2A for more

Montrose meet the candidates Monday

Montrose Community Center, 200 Center Ave. S, will host Meet the Candidates 7-9 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22. Individuals can submit questions for candidates to be drawn out of a bucket that evening.

Food distribution Tuesday

For Each and Every Day will conduct a food distribution 4-7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 23, at the Montrose Community Center. Distributions are scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of every month. For more information, call (763) 227-3793.

Delano Senior Center book, puzzle sale Oct. 24-26

Delano Senior Center, 234 N. Second St., will host a book and puzzle sale Wednesday, Oct. 24, through Friday, Oct. 26. Hours will be 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, and 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday. Prices will be 50 cents for hard covers, 25 cents for paperbacks, and puzzles priced to sell. Donations for the sale are still being accepted. Proceeds will benefit Delano Senior Center programs.

Liquor store fundraiser Oct. 27

Delano Wine and Spirits will host a fundraiser from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27. Funds from the event will go towards an infrared camera for the Delano Fire Department. See more information on the community page.



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A wild ride to the Stanley Cup

RING MAN, FROM 1A

“One of the guys on our staff, the next day, said ‘A.J., you might be the first father-son combo to have a Stanley Cup ring and a Super Bowl ring,” Toews said. “It has to be a pretty rare feat to have a father and son in two different sports have championship rings. It’s unique.”

Those Steelers’ Super Bowl rings are a fraction of the size of the Capitals’ Stanley Cup ring, but the younger Toews knows they hold as much, if not more, significance.

“He played, and I think there is a significant difference between playing and being on a staff and doing it,” he said.

Toews said he didn’t see his dad’s rings much, as the older Toews didn’t flaunt his accomplishments as a football player.

“He never wore his stuff around. Maybe at a wedding or at a special work event,” said Toews. “We didn’t have a lot of football pictures around the house. If you walked through my parents’ house, you may not know he even played football. My dad doesn’t talk a lot about it. He had that life then, and he has a different life now. He’s not playing football forever.”

Growing up, Toews never looked at his dad as a Super Bowl champion.

“As a kid, he is just your dad. I don’t think I knew the magnitude of what goes into it as a kid,” he explained. “When I was older, in my teens, I realized that not only did they win one, they won four in a six-year period. That’s unbelievable.”

Like his father did four times, the Younger Toews now knows the feeling of entering a season as the defending champion.

“There is some satisfaction knowing that you won. That quickly gets replaced by the hunger to do it again,” he said. “Do I have hopes we can do it and do I think we can? Yeah. Why not? It’s hard. Things have to go your way, and you have to play a certain way for a long time.

“It would be fun to win again.”

The road to the Cup at the end of last season proved how tough it is to win.

The Capitals came back from a 2-0 deficit to defeat Columbus in six games just to survive the first round of the Eastern Conference playoffs. Washington needed six games to knock off rival Pittsburgh in the second round. And, after taking a 2-0 led over Tampa Bay, the Capitals needed seven games to knock off the Lightning and advance to the finals.

The win over Pittsburgh was the indicator that told Crystal Toews the Cup was a real possibility for the Capitals.

“We had a bottle of Dom Perignon champagne we had been saving since our wedding, for a reason to celebrate. Eleven years of marriage, four babies and one adoption later, I put it in the fridge after we won our third game against Pittsburgh. I had a feeling, and said if we finally beat Pittsburgh we were drinking it,” she explained. “We celebrated big that night. It felt like a mental breakthrough for the guys. Once we beat Pittsburgh, I thought we would take it all the way.”

She was correct.

Washington had an easier time with Vegas in the finals, winning the fifth game 4-3 to claim the franchise’s first Stanley Cup. The entire Capitals staff, including A.J. and Crystal, were at T-Mobile Arena that night to witness the victory.

“It was fun for us to celebrate as a group, hockey operations. It was fun to watch the players. A lot of different emotions,” said Toews. “It’s hard to win. We’ve realized that in the past, and even this year when we were going through it — we were down 0-2 to Columbus. There was a collective sigh.”

The sense of relief came over the Capitals’ family section, as well.

“Apart from being heckled by a couple Vegas fans, I felt pretty good



Drinking from the Cup

Winning the Stanley Cup, of course, warrents a drink from the holy grail of hockey. Starting above, then clockwise: Crystal and A.J. Toews raise the Cup at a party hosted by Capitals President Dick Patrick; Crystal takes her drink with the help of A.J.; and A.J. takes his sip with help from Director of Player Development Steve Richmond.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF AJ TOWES

through most of the game, but in the last two minutes it really hit me,” said Crystal Toews. “I was sitting between two wives whose husbands have worked for the team for 20 and 21 years. The magnitude of what was possibly about to happen for the first time was overwhelming.”

The Stanley Cup was earned by the families, as much as it was by the men on and off the ice.

“As wives, we give up a lot from September to May so that our husbands can do something they love and for the teams they work for, and this is the pinnacle. This is the goal, and they were finally about to achieve it,” said Crystal Toews.

After falling short despite having one of the best teams in the NHL for so many seasons, the feeling of victory carried with it relief.

“For us, there was some expectations after some disappointment, but now it has happened. During the process, many of us were thinking, ‘This might happen,’” Toews said. It was great watching our guys do what they did.”

The constant vibration in his pocket was also a strong indicator that it might happen.

“During Game 5, when there was about 5 minutes left, my phone started vibrating. I kept my phone in my pocket because I just wanted to take it all in. It was a once in a lifetime thing, potentially, and I wanted to take it all in,” Toews said of the text messages received from family members, friends and his neighbors in the Fox Meadow neighborhood. “When I finally picked up my phone, I had 123 text messages from friends. Congratulations and pictures of people watching from different spots. That was neat. A lot of friends were pulling for me.”

Especially when the Wild were eliminated.

“A lot of my friends in the neighborhood and the people I go to church with are Wild fans and are not shy about it. As things moved along in the playoffs, they wanted us to win. I got a lot of supportive text messages,” Toews said. “Those were the same guys who would call to say ‘Sorry, man’ in previous years.”

Toews and the rest of the scouting department did spend some time with the Stanley Cup immediately following the Game 5 win June 7 in Vegas, but he, personally, did not actually touch it until five days later, at the celebration parade in Washington DC.

“My kids touched the Cup before I

did. The night we won, I didn’t touch it that night. I saw it and was around it, but I didn’t touch it,” he explained.

Toews said he was off changing clothes at the hotel room when he started receiving text messages.

“The kids saw T.J. Oshie and other players and got some pictures with them, and they also sent pictures with the Cup,” he said.

The five Toews children stayed home in Delano with grandma during the Game 5 win. Parade day allowed them to finally meet their Capital family.

“Being there for the win was definitely the highlight. Second would



Even morning coffee tastes better as a Stanley Cup Champion.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE

be packing up our kids and making the trek to DC the day after we got home from Vegas, so that they could enjoy the celebration, too,” said Crystal Toews. “Our kids give up a lot, also, so it was important for us to give them the opportunity to be a part of Capsland during this monumental time in the franchise’s history. We always enjoy spending time with our Caps family; they are people who live the same unique family life as us all over the world and we don’t get to see them often enough. Our kids meeting the kids they hear about and receive Christmas cards from was their highlight of the trip to DC for the parade and rally. The Cup was cool but finally meeting all the other Caps kids was their favorite part.”



As for touching the Stanley Cup, Toews finally did so on parade day.

“It’s a humbling thing. You feel weird that you are in a group that won one,” he said. “It’s a special experience, the first time you get to put your hands on it. I get why guys don’t want to touch it (before they win it).”

Watching her husband finally hold the Stanley Cup told Crystal the long road taken to win with the Capitals was worth it.

“The trophy and ring are not what every hockey wife dreams of, but the symbolism and significance to our husbands is. When we left California and our family and friends for a state I had never even been to, let alone knew anyone in, with a 2-year old and a baby on the way, for a job that would take my previously working-from-home husband on the road five days a week, this was the goal,” she explained. “The cup and ring were the dream. Being able to see him realize this dream is very special to hockey wives/widows’ hearts.”

The history of the Stanley Cup impresses Toews.

“It is so neat, the Cup, in how it moves from team to team. Nobody keeps it,” he explained. “They just took the top band off to make room for our band. We are the first team on the new band. Rocket Richard was on (that top band), and all of those Canadian teams.”

The names of players, coaches, management and staff are engraved on bands that are stacked five high to form the broad base of the cup. When a band fills up, as was the case when the 2017 champion Pittsburgh Penguins were added, the oldest band on the cup is removed to make room for a new band and the names of the new champions.

Doing this means the teams and names on those bands are also removed from the Stanley Cup. Adding the band that now hosts the Capitals championship team means the names of hockey greats Gordie Howe, Bobby Hull, Maurice “Rocket” Richard and many others are no longer on the Cup.

Toews has seen those names on the Stanley Cup. As a 17-year-old playing hockey at Shattuck-St. Mary’s, Toews and his team visited the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto. He also attended a Stanley Cup party hosted by a friend, who is a scout for the rival Penguins.

“There is so much history. It is such a unique trophy,” Toews said.

Toews has had several more runs with the Stanley Cup since the

parade. He spent time with it in late June at the NHL Draft in Dallas, and later this summer, when it made one of its, so far, four trips to Minnesota, at a party hosted by Capitals General Manager Brian MacLellan.

Each time, Toews and the other members of the Capitals organization have had to convince each other of reality.

“When we’ve gone to things, someone will still say, ‘We are Stanley Cup champions. We won the Stanley Cup,’” he said. “It’s weird that it is finally here. It should start to sink in, as we have the proof.”

“It is one of those things that is hard to grasp.”

The others to host the cup in Minnesota are players Oshie and Matt Niskanen, and Head Athletic Trainer Jason Serbus.

A fifth visit to Minnesota is happening.

As mentioned earlier, each player, coach, executive and team employee gets his or her day with the Stanley Cup. Yes, that includes Toews. And, yes, that includes Delano.

“My goal is that I want friends and family and people I know to be able to see it up close and touch it and take pictures,” Toews said.

The Toews family is using its time with the Stanley Cup to give back.

“I’m thankful for the opportunity to have a day with the cup and support The Reel Hope Project, a charity close to our hearts as foster and adoptive parents,” said Crystal Toews. “The parties and celebrations are wonderful and well-deserved, but the opportunity to use it to help Minnesota children who need forever families is the best part of this opportunity.”

Toews’ time with the Stanley Cup will span from Sunday afternoon through Monday morning. Eating cereal out of the silver and nickel alloy bowl before school is on the list of things to do with it. As for where and when the Cup will make public stops in Delano, the schedule has not been made public. Toews does warn that it will show up at places unannounced.

“Most of the guys have said that the coolest things have been the non-planned things,” Toews said. “Like going to breakfast and bringing it in when nobody knows it is coming. They show up and these old dudes sipping coffee are like ‘What’s that? Is that the Stanley Cup?’”



Lords of the Rings

A.J. Toews and wife Crystal received the Stanley Cup ring and pendant set (above, left). The ring is personalized with Toews’ name. By size, it dwarfs the Super Bowl rings won by his father, Loran Toews, with the Pittsburgh Steelers, but, in number, it pales in comparison to the older Toews’ four (pictured on his daughter’s hand).

STANLEY CUP RING PHOTOS BY MATT KANE/SUPER BOWL PHOTO COURTESY OF AJ TOWES



FOOTBALL

Tigers take care of Dragons at home

MATT KANE
Sports Editor

DELANO — Delano needed a win, and it got it.

The Tigers stopped a losing skid after two games last Friday night with a 20-13 home win over Litchfield.

The win improved Delano to 4-3 overall heading into this past Wednesday's regular-season finale at Watertown-Mayer (0-7).

Delano overcame several obstacles to pull out the much-needed victory over Litchfield.

The Tigers overcame two turnovers, both interceptions, and injuries to two key players.

The injury bug that bit the Tigers hard earlier in the season struck again in the Litchfield game, claiming both senior defensive back Nathan O'Sullivan, and leading receiver Brett Unrein late in the second quarter.

O'Sullivan's injury was serious. The game was delayed more than 40 minutes while the senior lay on the sideline near the Litchfield bench waiting for an ambulance to arrive.

On the play, O'Sullivan broke up a long pass attempt, but was called for interference. That put the ball on the Delano 39-yard line with six minutes to play in the first half.

The Dragons took the ball to the 22-yard line, but no further, as the Tiger defense turned the ball over on downs.

Delano gave the ball back five minutes later, when Max Otto's pass was intercepted by Logan Graphenteen, who returned the ball 18 yards back to the Delano 22-yard line.

The Delano defense stepped up again, this time cutting Litchfield's offense off after only three plays. Junior Chuck Campion intercepted a Brandt Pedersen 3rd-and-9 pass.

The interception set up the Tigers at their own 15-yard line with 1:14 to play in the first half.

Delano's offense traveled the remaining 85 yards to the end zone and used every bit of that game clock to do so.

The first big play was Otto's 46-yard completion to Unrein in front of the Delano sideline. Unrein twisted his body to make the catch, but injured his lower leg as he landed awkwardly. He did not return.

Two plays later, Otto found Sam Kern over the middle for a 27-yard completion with time running down.

Otto spiked the ball with nine seconds to go in the half with the football on the 10-yard line.

The final play of the first half used up those nine seconds, as Otto completed a pass to tight end Trey Longstreet at the 5-yard line.

Longstreet pulled the first tackler for three yards and then pushed a pile of Dragons until the ball broke the plane of the end zone.

The two-point conversion attempt failed, but the six points



Chain of Events

Delano's Chuck Campion returns the ball a short distance on a second-quarter interception deep in the Tigers' own territory last week against Litchfield. Campion's interception and this acrobatic catch by Brett Unrein (below) set up Delano's second scoring drive of the game. On the final play of the possession and first half, Trey Longstreet (84) battled his way to the goal line for a 10-yard touchdown catch.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE



gave the Tigers a 12-6 lead at the intermission. They never trailed again.

Delano was looking to build on that lead early in the second half, as it received the kickoff out of halftime. The Tigers drove the ball 69 yards on 11 plays down to the Litchfield 5-yard line, but never crossed the goal line.

On the 12th play, on an Otto pass intended for Longstreet, Longstreet took a big hit at the goal line and the ball popped out of his arms and into the arms of a Litchfield defensive back.

The Tiger defense held tight and forced a punt from the 29-yard line.

Delano's offense began its drive at its own 38-yard line with 26 seconds to play in the third quarter. On the seventh

play, which came in the fourth quarter, Otto threw a perfect pass to Longstreet, who found the seam in the middle of the field and followed it to the end zone for a 38-yard touchdown catch and run.

Otto found Reno Bredahl in the end zone for the two-point conversion, and the Tigers led 20-6.

Longstreet gave credit for the big play to the big boys up



front.

"Our O-line, I give all the credit in the world to them. On that middle screen, where I went for a touchdown, I had all the space in the world," he said. "That's the best play we have run all year. We practiced that all week and all year, and they did it perfect."

Delano coach Merrill Pavlovich liked the play, as well.

East Central South
Week 7 Results

Delano 20, Litchfield 6
Annandale 21, Glencoe-Silver Lake 0
Holy Family 32, Dassel-Cokato 7
Milaca 28, Watertown-Mayer 7

fense forced Litchfield to turn the ball over on downs on the game's first possession, and the Tiger offense rewarded the effort with a lengthy drive to the end zone.

The scoring drive covered only 37 yards, but Delano used 13 plays and four-and-a-half minutes of the first-quarter clock.

A Kern 13-yard run gave the Tigers a first-and-goal at the 2-yard line. On the next play, Otto pushed his way into the end zone for the score.

The extra-point attempt was no good, and the Tigers led 6-0 with just under four minutes to play in the first quarter.

Litchfield matched that six points on the ensuing drive, which bridged the first two quarters.

The Dragons went 65 yards in nine plays. The ninth-play was a 34-yard touchdown completion from Pedersen to Alex Guenke.

The Dragons' kick failed and the game was tied 6-6.

Otto was efficient in the passing game for the Tigers. He completed 10-of-15 attempts for 152 yards and two touchdowns. He was intercepted twice.

Otto's arm was relieved a bit by the fact that the Tigers had a running game.

Delano ran for 171 yards on 39 carries, and for the second time all season and the first time since Week 2, it had a 100-yard rusher.

Kern went for 137 yards on 26 carries. He also caught two passes for 32 yards.

"Kern ran the ball really well tonight," said Pavlovich.

Longstreet caught the two touchdown passes for a total of 48 yards.

Unrein had two catches for 37 yards before leaving the game.

Delano's defense was led by Adam Brown, who finished with 12 tackles.

Spencer Poll had a quarterback sack, and Campion had the interception.

DELANO 20, LITCHFIELD 13

Friday, Oct. 13					
Delano High School		1	2	3	4 - F
LITCHFIELD	0	6	0	7	- 13
DELANO	6	6	0	8	- 20
Scoring					
First Quarter					
D - Otto 2-yard run (kick failed), 0-6					
Second Quarter					
L - Pedersen 34-yard pass to Gruenke (kick failed), 6-6					
D - Otto 10-yard pass to Longstreet (run failed), 6-13					
Third Quarter					
No scoring					
Fourth Quarter					
D - Otto 39-yard touchdown pass to Longstreet (Otto pass to Bredahl), 6-20					
L - Alsleben 5-yard run (Martinez kick), 13-20					
Statistics					
TEAM Total Yards: Delano 323. Rushing: Delano 39-171 TD. Passing: Delano 10-152 2TD 2INT.					
INDIVIDUALS Rushing: Delano — Kern 26-137, Knight 2-12, Link 5-10, Otto 5-10 TD, Quast 1-2. Passing: Delano — Otto 10-15/153 2TD 2INT. Receiving: Delano — Longstreet 2-48 2TD, Unrein 2-37, Kern 2-32, Bredahl 3-23, Knight 1-12. Tackles: Delano — Brown 12, Rasmussen 7. Quarterback sacks: Delano — Poll. Interceptions: Delano — Campion.					

GIRLS TENNIS

Section tournament marks the end for Tigers

MATT KANE
Sports Editor

MINNEAPOLIS — The Section 5AA individual tournament at the Reed-Sweett Tennis Center in Minneapolis Monday marked the final event of the season for six Delano players.

None of the Tigers survived past the quarter-final round of the state-qualifier.

Delano's Hannah Nellis, a senior, and her freshman partner, Olivia Bekkala, made a surprise run through the first two rounds of the doubles tournament.

Nellis and Bekkala had no problem in the first round, topping Minneapolis Edison's Huda Andulahi and Gwen Buber 6-0, 6-0. The unseeded Tiger tandem then upset the No. 7 seed, Robbinsdale Armstrong's Kaitlin Moe and Renae Brunner, 6-3, 6-3.

That win over the Armstrong duo had Nellis and Bekkala energized, and it bled into their quarterfinal match against Wayzata's Lauren Lo and Natalie Epshteyn, the tournament's No. 2 seed.

It didn't bleed enough, though. Lo and Epshteyn had to work to win the first set 7-6, and then took the second set easily, 6-2, to claim the match and end Nellis and Bekkala's season.

Lo and Epshteyn kept going, winning their

semifinal match, but fell in the final 6-2, 6-3 to the No. 1 seed, Maple Grove's Maria Shoults and Victoria Epshteyn.

Delano's other doubles team, made up of senior Nicole Pupp and junior Meghan Staunton, did not survive the first round. They fell 7-5, 6-4 to Buffalo's Anna Lee and Ohnica Melenich.

The Molitor sisters represented Delano in the singles tournament.

Maria Molitor matched the run made by Nellis and Bekkala by playing her way into the quarterfinals, where she was ultimately eliminated.

The No. 5 seed, Maria Molitor fell to No. 5 Miriam Shteyman of Wayzata 6-1, 6-2 in that quarterfinal match.

Shteyman lost to top seed and eventual section champion Nicole Snezhko of Robbinsdale Armstrong 6-1, 6-3 in the semifinals.

Snezhko defeated Maple Grove's Zoe Adkins 6-4, 2-6, 6-3 in the section championship match.

Earlier in the tournament, Maria Molitor defeated Edison's Maeve Wells 6-0, 6-0 in the first round, and Rogers' Allison Hatcher 6-1, 6-0 in the second round.

Bella Molitor defeated Monticello's Hannah Mayer 6-2, 6-1 in the first round. She was then

defeated 6-0, 6-0 by Buffalo's Anna Lee, the No. 3 seed, in round two.

The tournament wrapped up the 20th season for Delano head coach Kim Finn.



Delano's doubles team of Olivia Bekkala (above) and Hannah Nellis (at right) played into the quarterfinals before being eliminated from the Section 5AA tournament Monday at the Reed-Sweett Tennis Center in Minneapolis.

PHOTOS BY MATT KANE



Finn's Tigers went 10-8 in dual matches this season.

The Class AA state tournament runs Oct. 23-26 at the Baseline Tennis Center on the University of Minnesota campus.

Wayzata is the Section 5AA team champion. The Trojans open against No. 1 Edina Tuesday at 8 a.m.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Tiger boys sixth at WCCE championships

MATT KANE
Sports Editor

MINNETRISTA — The postseason began Tuesday with the running of the Wright County Conference East Championships at Gale Woods Farm

Orono freshman Angelo Friatarulo is the individual conference champion, barely.

Friatarulo crossed the line at 17:02. And, so, too, did Waconia's Simon Razidlo. After the times were broken down even farther. The tale of the tape determined Friatarulo got to the line a fraction of a second ahead of Razidlo.

Waconia's top runner may have had to settle for second place as an individual, but he was able to celebrate the team win with the other Wildcats.

Waconia won a tight race with 45 points.

Hutchinson finished second with 50 points.

Delano finished the six-team event in sixth place. The Tigers scored 119 points.

Jack Balsiger was Delano's top finisher. He crossed the line in eighth place with the time of 17:40.

Another Delano runner didn't finish until 12 spots later, when Austin Carlson crossed in 21st place. His time was 18:08.

The final five Tigers all finished in a span of seven spots.

Isayas Rodriguez finished 29th (18:31), followed, immediately by Jorge Diaz-Mora (30th, 18:33) and Caleb Schrein (31st, 18:4), and later by Reier Sjomeling (33rd, 18:56) and Hunter Ulferts (35th, 19:04).

It's do or die week for the Tigers next week. The Section 2AA Championships are



Jorge Diaz-Mora (left) and Hunter Ulferts run during a meet earlier this season. Both ran with the varsity team Tuesday at Gale Woods Farm in the WCCE Championships.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE

Thursday, Oct. 25, at Gale Woods Farm.			5. Orono	114
			6. Delano	119
			Individual Winner	Time
			Angelo Friatarulo (O)	17:02
WCCE CHAMPIONSHIPS			Delano Runners (actual finish)	
Tuesday, Oct. 16			8. Jack Balsiger	17:40
Gale Woods Farm			21. Austin Carlson	18:08
Boys			29. Isayas Rodriguez	18:31
Team			30. Jorge Diaz-Mora	18:33
	Score		31. Caleb Schrein	18:40
1. Waconia	45		33. Sjomeling	18:56
2. Hutchinson	50		35. Hunter Ulferts	19:04
3. New Prague	64			
4. Holy Family	108			



The competition was tough on the Tigers Tuesday at Gale Woods Farm during the running of the WCCE Championships. Delano finished sixth out of six teams. Isayas Rodriguez was Delano's third runner to finish. He did so in 29th place.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Lady Tigers 5th at WCC East championships

MATT KANE
Sports Editor

MINNETRISTA — The sun came out for the running of the Wright County Conference East Championships Tuesday at Gale Woods Farm in Minnetrista.

The solar body shined the brightest on Waconia and the Wildcats' top runner Kalessa Houston. Both were tops in their class by a decent margin.

Waconia won the conference team championship with 32 points. New Prague finished second with 62 points.

Houston won the girls individual championship with the time of 18:45. The second-place time recorded by Hutchinson's Isabella Schmitz was 19:21.

Sophomore Grace Jostock was Delano's top runner. She finished fourth with the time of 20:21.

Jostock was seven seconds behind New Prague's Sydney Siegle, who finished third with the time of 20:14.

Delano finished fourth out of five teams. The Tigers totalled 104 points.

Hailey Ness (13th, 21:10), Naomi Eskola (25th, 21:58) and Lila Ford (29th, 22:32) also figured into Delano's team score.



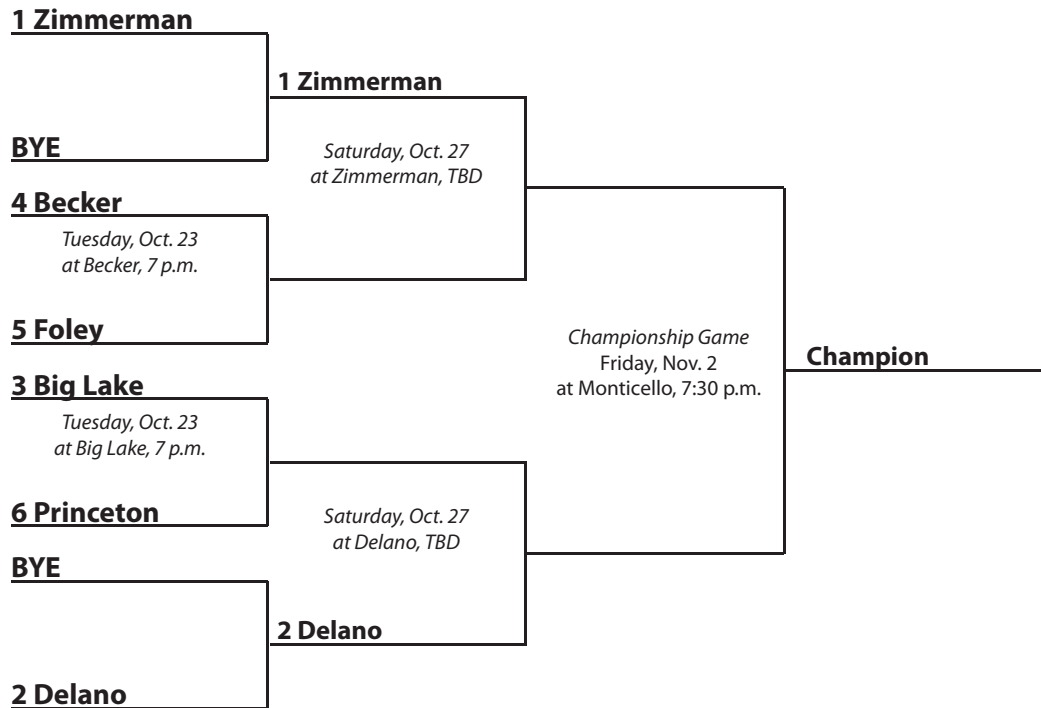
Senior Naomi Eskola (left) and sophomore Gretchen Ness finished 25th and 37th, respectively, Tuesday at the WCCE Championships at Gale Woods Farm.

PHOTOS BY MATT KANE

			Girls	
			Team	Score
			1. Waconia	32
			2. New Prague	62
			3. Orono	79
			4. Delano	104
			5. Hutchinson	107
			Individual Winner	Time
			Kalessa Houston (W)	18:45
			Delano Runners (actual finish)	
			4. Grace Jostock	20:21
			13. Hailey Ness	21:10
			25. Naomi Eskola	21:58
			29. Lila Ford	22:32
			33. Kyla Link	22:53
			36. Campbell Logan	23:28
			37. Gretchen Ness	23:58

WCCE CHAMPIONSHIPS		
Tuesday, Oct. 16		
Gale Woods Farm		

Section 6AAAA Football Tournament



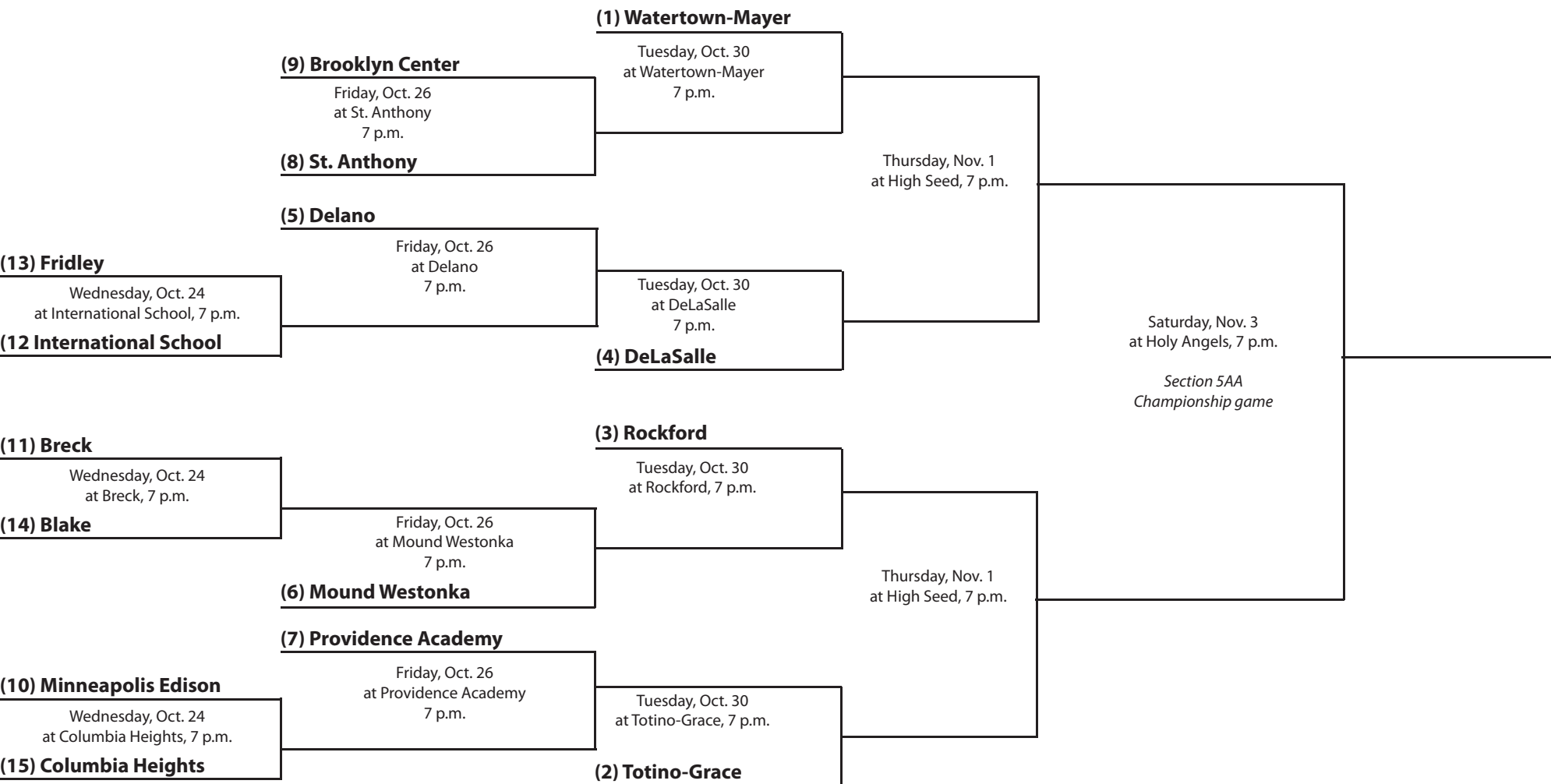
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Minnesota State High School League Section 5AA Volleyball Tournament



BOYS SOCCER

White Hawks send Tigers home in a nail-biter

MATT KANE
Sports Editor

MOUND — Delano got the late goal it needed to avoid elimination, but survival in the Section 6A playoffs lasted exactly 15 seconds Oct. 11 at Mound-Westonka. The White Hawks defeated Delano 2-1 in the quarterfinal game, and advanced on to the semifinals, where they were topped by Holy Family, 3-1.

No. 1 Holy Family went on to win the section championship and the berth into the state tournament. The Fire defeated No. 2 Waconia 1-0 in overtime Tuesday night.

Mound-Westonka was the No. 4 seed , and Delano was No. 5.

In the game between Delano and Mound-Westonka, Daniel Neve scored the game-winner for the host White Hawks just 15 seconds after Delano's Nicholas Braiedy tied the game 1-1.

Those two goals both came in the final two minutes of regulation. All three goals came in the final three minutes after the teams played to a scoreless tie through 77 minutes.

Michael Doshan finally broke the scoreless tie at the 77:00 mark of the game. Braiedy's goal came at 78:58. And Neve's goal came at 79:13.

"It was a very tight game, as expected," said Delano coach John Bergh. "With a dramatic finish."

The expectation of a close game was based on the outcome of the regular-season meeting, a 4-3 win by the White Hawks.

Delano had the best scoring chance in the first half. Just 12 minutes into the game, Tate Pappas feathered the ball perfectly out of the reach of Mound-Westonka goal-keeper Ethan Fetters Vandenheuvel, but, unfortunately, it was just inches wide of sneaking into the net, and, instead, kissed the upper-right elbow of the goal post.

Delano goalkeeper Jack Keranen kept the game knotted at zero later in the first half, when he got an outstretched hand on the ball just enough to deflect it wide of the goal mouth.

Keranen made 12 saves. On the game's first goal, Doshan took advantage of Delano's inability to clear a loose ball in front of Keranen. Aidan Maloney corralled the ball and fed Doshan, who made good on the open shot.

Delano tied the game off a Pappas corner kick, where they had everybody, including Keranen, in the offensive end in front of the Mound-Westonka goal.

On Pappas' kick, Braiedy's head rose above all others to strike the ball and redi-

rect it past Fetters Vandenheuvel. The game-winner came off the ensuing faceoff. The White Hawks sent the ball deep into Delano territory, and it eventually found Neve, who stuffed the ball into the goal at close range.

The late-game swings and finish were tough to take for the Tigers.

"It was an extremely disappointing loss for all of us," said Bergh. "Both teams battled hard all game and then the emotion of giving up a late goal, then scoring in the last minute of play to tie the game, only to give up the winning goal seconds later was an emotional roller coaster."

The loss ended the season for the Delano boys. It was a record-breaking campaign, as this was the first Tiger team to win 11 games. Delano finished with an 11-5-1 mark. Seven of those wins were shutouts.

"It was a talented group of guys who proved they had the ability to play with all the best teams in our section," said Bergh. "We will miss our three senior starters, but we will have an experienced group returning next year to build on this year's success."

The seniors are Braiedy, Garrett Robinson, Trent Peterson and Tommy Peterson.



Delano goalkeeper Jack Keranen gets to the ball a split second before Mound-Westonka's Jack Ryall in the first half of the Oct. 11 playoff game.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE



Players from both teams got down and dirty in a bid for playoff survival Oct. 11, when Delano met Mound-Westonka in the quarterfinals of the Section 6A playoffs in Mound. Above, Delano's Tommy Peterson avoids Mound-Westonka's Cole VanGeider; and, at left: Delano's Nicholas Braiedy (10) and Garrett Robinson battle Mound-Westonka's David Godoy-Henderson (6) and Daniel Neve for the loose ball. Neve decided the exciting game, scoring with 47 seconds to play in regulation to give the White Hawks the 2-1 win. Braiedy scored Delano's goal 15 seconds earlier.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE

PREP SCOREBOARD and MSHSL Rankings

FOOTBALL
East Central South Final Standings

	Conf	Overall
Dassel-Cokato	5-1	7-1
Annandale	5-1	7-1
Delano	4-2	5-3
Holy Family	3-3	5-3
Glencoe-Silver Lake	2-4	3-5
Litchfield	2-4	3-5
Watertown-Mayer	0-6	0-8

RESULTS Friday, Oct. 12 • Milaca 28, Watertown-Mayer 7 • Delano 20, Litchfield 13 • Holy Family 33, Dassel-Cokato 7 • Annandale 21, Glencoe-Silver Lake 0 Wednesday, Oct. 17 • Glencoe-Silver Lake 27, Litchfield 20 • Delano 47, Watertown-Mayer 6 • Annandale 32, Holy Family 12 • Dassel-Cokato 19, Zimmerman 10
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VOLLEYBALL
Wright County Conference
East Final Standings

	Conf	Overall
New Prague	5-0	19-9
Hutchinson	4-1	18-10
Waconia	3-2	16-9
Delano	2-3	14-12
Holy Family	1-4	6-20
Orono	0-5	2-25

Wright County Conference
West Final Standings

	Conf	Overall
Glencoe-Silver Lake	7-0	19-5
Watertown-Mayer	6-1	21-6
Annandale	5-2	18-8
Rockford	4-3	15-11
Mound Westonka	3-4	10-12
New London-Spicer	2-5	11-14
Litchfield	1-6	12-15
Dassel-Cokato	0-7	7-20

RESULTS Thursday, Oct. 11 • Hutchinson 3, Watertown-Mayer 2 • Waconia 3, Buffalo 1 • Big Lake 3, Mound Westonka 0

• Wayzata 3, Orono 0 Friday, Oct. 12 • Waconia 2, D-G-F 0 • Waconia 2, Robbinsdale Armstrong 0 • Maple Lake 2, Orono 1 • Eastview 2, Orono 0 Saturday, Oct. 13 • Minneota 2, Waconia 0 • Waconia 2, Sauk Rapids-Rice 1 • Andover 2, Waconia 1 • Andover 2, Orono 0 • Blaine 2, Orono 0 • Duluth East 2, Orono 0 Monday, Oct. 15 • Mound Westonka 3, New London-Spicer 1 Tuesday, Oct. 16 • Annandale 3, Dassel-Cokato 0 • Rockford 3, Litchfield 2 • Glencoe-Silver Lake 3, Watertown-Mayer 2 • Waconia 3, Orono 0 • New Prague 3, Holy Family 0 • Maple Lake 3, Delano 0
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SCHEDULE Monday, Oct. 22 • Annandale at Kimball

VOLLEYBALL
Section 5AA Tournament

SCHEDULE Wednesday, Oct. 24 (First Round) • International School at Fridley • Blake at Breck • Columbia Heights at Mpls. Edison

Football Rankings
9-Man

1. Spring Grove
2. Stephen-Argyle
3. Verndale
4. Cromwell-Wright
5. Cook County
6. Mountain Lake Area
7. South Ridge
8. Houston
9. Norman County East/UH
10. Hills-Beaver Creek

Football Rankings
Class A

1. Minneota
2. BOLD
3. Mahnomen/Waubun
4. Blooming Prairie
5. Ottertail Central
6. United South Central
7. Goodhue
8. Ada-Borup/Norman County West
9. Dawson-Boyd
10. Rushford-Peterson

Football Rankings
Class AA

1. Caledonia
2. Minneapolis North
3. Redwood Valley
4. Hawley
5. Pipestone Area
6. Royalton
7. Waterville-Elysian-Morristown
8. Chatfield
9. Barnesville
10. St. Charles

Football Rankings
Class AAA

1. Pierz
2. Rochester Lourdes
3. Mora
4. Spectrum
5. Breck
6. Fairmont
7. New London-Spicer
8. Annandale
9. Jordan
10. Albany

Football Rankings
Class AAAA

1. Academy of Holy Angels
2. Winona
3. Hutchinson
4. Detroit Lakes
5. St. Paul Academy
6. Marshall
7. Hermantown
8. Providence Academy
9. Cloquet
10. Willmar

Football Rankings
Class AAAAA

1. Owatonna
2. Elk River
3. St. Thomas Academy
4. Robbinsdale Cooper
5. Chanhasseen
6. Waconia
7. Sauk Rapids-Rice
8. Bemidji
9. Mankato West
10. Hastings

Football Rankings
Class AAAAAA

1. Lakeville North
2. Blaine
3. Eden Prairie
4. Edina
5. Woodbury
6. Champlin Park
7. Rosemount
8. Wayzata

9. East Ridge
10. Buffalo

Volleyball Rankings
Class A

1. Minneota
2. Waterville-Elysian-Morristown
3. Mayer Lutheran
4. Wabasso
5. Pine River-Backus
6. Mabel-Canton
7. Ada-Borup/Norman County West
8. BOLD
9. Windom
10. Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa

Volleyball Rankings
Class AA

1. Stewartville
2. Kasson-Mantorville
3. Marshall
4. Concordia Academy
5. North Branch

6. Academy of Holy Angels
7. Belle Plaine
8. Kenyon-Wanamingo
9. Watertown-Mayer
10. Sauk Centre

Volleyball Rankings
Class AAA

1. Champlin Park
2. Lakeville North
3. Eagan
4. Lakeville South
5. Minnetonka
6. Stillwater
7. East Ridge
8. Shakopee
9. Northfield
10. North St. Paul



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GIRLS SWIMMING

Delano finishes fifth at state True Team

MATT KANE
Sports Editor

MINNEAPOLIS — In the truest test of an entire team’s makeup, Delano finished fifth at the Class A State True Team Championship Oct. 13 at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center.

The Tigers scored 1,613 points.

Visitation won the True Team championship with 2,275.5 points.

Delano participated in the True Team State meet on an at-large bid after finishing second to Hutchinson at the Section 3A True Team Championships.

Hutchinson did not attend the state meet.

Delano swimmers captured two event wins. They came in back-to-back events, and senior Morgan Frank was involved in both.

Frank won the 500 with the time of 5:13.35.

Frank complimented the 500 win with a win in the 200 freestyle relay with three teammates.

Frank swam the anchor leg, diving in after Emma Kern, Megan Bunker and Kylie Strobl. Their winning time was 1:40.07.

Frank missed another individual win by a fraction of a second.

She placed second in the 200 freestyle with the time of 1:55.59. Sauk Centre’s Kali Sayovitz won the 200 with the time of 1:55.44.

The Tigers finished the day with a second-place finish in the 400 freestyle relay. The collective time swum by Frank, Laila Rosenow, Strobl and Kern was 3:37.56.

Visitation won the 400 with the time of 3:35.66.

Kern finished second in the 100 backstroke with the time of 58.42 seconds, and third in the 100 butterfly with the time of 59.45 seconds.

Visitation’s Kali Fischer won the backstroke with the time of 58.35 seconds, and Breck’s Yvonne Jia won the butterfly with the time of 57.74



Senior Morgan Frank swam well for Delano at the True Team State Championship Oct. 13 at the University of Minnesota. On her own, she captured a win in the 500 freestyle, and second place in the 200 freestyle. With three teammates, she won the 400 freestyle relay and finished second in the 200 freestyle relay.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE

seconds.

Strobl took a fourth-place finish in the 100 freestyle. Her time was 55.01 seconds.

Sayovitz won the 100 with the time of 53.31 seconds.

The Delano swimmers took a lengthy break between competitions. They were off this past week.

The junior varsity team competes at its Wright County Conference East Championship Monday at Dassel-Cokato. The conference championships for the varsity teams is Saturday, Oct. 27, at the New Prague Aquatics Center.

TRUE TEAM STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Saturday, Oct. 13
UofM Aquatic Center
Team Results: 1. Visitation 2275.5; 2. Sartell-St. Stephen 1988.5; 3. Breck 1797; 4. Northfield 1752; 5. Delano 1613; 6. Sauk Centre 1470; 7. Mankato West 1242; 8. Sauk Rapids-Rice 1240; 9. Foley 1175; 10. Detroit Lakes 1125; 11. Melrose 1054; 12. Masabi East 886.
Event Results
200 medley relay: 1. Visitation, 1:50.60; 9. Delano (Palmer, Benker, Rosenow, Bobick), 1:57.03; 16. Delano (Semeizer, Jacobs, S Benker, York), 2:00.59; 36. Delano (A Kurth, Millard, Vig, Verhey), 2:09.93.
200 freestyle: 1. Sayovitz (SC), 1:55.44; 2. Frank (D), 1:55.59; 4. Strobl (D), 1:58.65; 21. Seguin (D), 2:08.08; 39. Kazin (D), 2:17.87.

200 individual medley: 1. Fischer (V), 2:06.73; 19. Palmer (D), 2:23.75; 22. York (D), 2:28.69; 38. Jacobs (D), 2:35.42; 42. A Kurth (D), 2:38.08.
50 freestyle: 1. Kramer (S), 24.48; 9. M Benker (D), 25.65; 11. Rosenow (D), 25.72; 19. Bobick (D), 26.33; 25. Semeizer (D), 26.95.
Diving: 1. Hawkins (Br), 414.75; 17. Lommel (D), 197.10; 21. Dickhausen (D), 118.95; 29. Stoudt (D), 109.40; 33. Coons (D), 105.80.
100 butterfly: 1. Jia (Br), 57.74; 3. Kern (D), 59.45; 5. Rosenow (D), 1:00.98; 14. S Benker (D), 1:04.41; 25. York (D), 1:09.42.
100 freestyle: 1. Sayovitz (SC), 53.31; 4. Strobl (D), 55.01; 16. Bobick (D), 58.32; 30. Verhey (D), 1:00.27; 42. Scanlan (D), 1:03.00.
500 freestyle: 1. Frank (D), 5:13.35; 16. Seguin (D), 5:41.16; 34. Kazin (D), 6:07.18; 35. Wadholm (D), 6:08.01.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Delano (Kern, M Benker, Strobl, Frank), 1:40.07; 13. Delano (S Benker, Seguin, York, Bobick), 1:47.22; 24. Delano (Scanlan, Jacobs, Wadholm, Verhey), 1:52.96; 38. Delano (Millard, Kazin, Vig, Winterhalter), 1:56.60.
100 backstroke: 1. Fischer (V), 58.35; 2. Kern (D), 58.42; 14. Palmer (D), 1:05.36; 18. S Benker (D), 1:07.19; 21. Semeizer (D), 1:07.81.
100 breaststroke: 1. Coleman (S), 1:07.80; 23. M Benker (D), 1:15.79; 31. Jacobs (D), 1:17.93; 39. M Kurth (D), 1:20.08; 40. A Kurth (D), 1:20.17.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Visitation, 3:35.66; 2. Delano (Frank, Rosenow, Strobl, Kern), 3:37.56; 20. Delano (Seguin, Semeizer, Verhey, Palmer), 4:04.55; 35. Delano (Kazin, A Kurth, Winterhalter, Scanlan), 4:16.72; 44. Delano (Millard, Vig, M Kurth, Wadholm), 4:27.55.

VOLLEYBALL

Tigers have no luck against the Irish

MATT KANE
Sports Editor

MAPLE LAKE — The regular season ended with a 3-0 shutout loss at Maple Lake Tuesday night for the Delano volleyball team.

The host Irish, who are the defending Class A state champion, won the three sets 25-18, 25-19, 25-19.

Delano finished with a 14-12 record.

In the match at Maple Lake, Mya Johnson had nine kills for Delano. Kamryn Ahlstrom led the Tigers with 14 digs. Brynn Heinonen and Judy Halonen both finished with 11 digs.

Heinonen had 30 assists.

For Delano, the Section 5AA playoffs begin next week. There are three pigtail games Wednesday, Oct. 24. The first-round matches are Friday, Oct. 26. The quarterfinals are Tuesday, Oct. 30, the semifinals are Thursday, Nov. 1, and the championship match is Saturday, Nov. 3, at the Academy of Holy Angels.

Brynn Heinonen had 30 assists at Maple Lake Tuesday night, but it wasn’t enough, as the Tigers lost 3-0 to the Irish.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE



SCHEDULE							
TEAM	FRIDAY October 19	SATURDAY October 20	SUNDAY October 21	MONDAY October 22	TUESDAY October 23	WEDNESDAY October 24	THURSDAY October 25
Delano Tigers Football					Section 6-4A Quarterfinals (Delano has a bye)		
Boys Soccer							
Girls Soccer							
Girls Tennis					State Tournament	State Tournament	State Tournament
Delano Tigers Volleyball							Section 5AA Play-In Games
Delano Tigers Girls Swimming				JV Conference Tournament at Dassel-Cokato			
Delano Tigers Cross Country							Section 2AA Championships at Crown College

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Zebra mussels confirmed in Sugar Lake in Wright County

From the DNR

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed zebra mussels in Sugar Lake in Wright County, after more than a dozen lake property owners reported finding zebra mussels on equipment being removed from the lake for the season.

Wright County staff initially contacted the DNR after finding a zebra mussel attached to a boat. Following that report, 13 lake property owners reported zebra mussels on their docks and boat lifts. DNR invasive species staff found numerous adult zebra mussels in both the north and southeast ends of the lake.

“It helps a lot when lake property owners, county staff and others notify us when they’ve spotted an invasive species,” said Heidi Wolf, DNR invasive species unit supervisor.

It is important to carefully check docks, boat lifts and other equipment being removed for the season. Minnesota law requires keeping docks and lifts out of the water for at least 21 days before putting them into another body of water.

The DNR recommends these steps for lake property owners:

Look on the posts, wheels and underwater support bars of docks and lifts, as well as



Outdoors

CHRIS SCHULTZ • OWNER

any parts of boats, pontoons and rafts that may have been submerged in water for an extended period.

Hire DNR-permitted lake service provider businesses to install or remove boats, docks, lifts and other water-related equipment. These businesses have received training on Minnesota’s aquatic invasive species laws and many have experience identifying and removing invasive species.

People should contact an area DNR aquatic invasive species specialist if they think they have discovered an invasive species that has not already been confirmed in the lake. Take a photo of any newly discovered invasive species before removing it from equipment. Save specimens or leave them in place until the DNR can investigate.

More information is available at mndnr.gov/ais.

Conservation officer reports

Mound

CO Arnaud Kpachavi reports working big-game and waterfowl activity during the week. He responded to assist a group of waterfowl hunters who became stranded in high river waters. All parties were returned to the access safely. Enforcement action for the week included operating an ATV with a juvenile passenger not wearing a helmet.

Buffalo

CO Rick Reller and CO Ashley Whiteoak primarily worked checking duck hunters at Pelican Lake and sur-

rounding waterfowl production areas. They followed up on a trespassing complaint of duck hunters using private property. Time was also spent checking pheasant hunters for the opening weekend of the season. Enforcement action was taken for waterfowl hunting with toxic shot, unplugged shotgun, hunting in open water, no PFD in watercraft, and hunting without required licenses or stamps.

Waconia

CO Alexander Birdsall reports an excellent southern zone reopener for migratory waterfowl. Hunters expressed their surprise to see so many birds during the early morning hours. A good variety of duck species were found in the bag. Big-game violations continue to be investigated. Enforcement action was taken for transporting a loaded firearm, insufficient number of personal flotation devices, and no federal stamp in possession.

Litchfield

CO Nicholas Klehr worked a busy pheasant opener over the weekend. Most hunters were able to see pheasants and a few were able to bag a rooster or two over the weekend. Klehr checked archery and duck-hunting activity. Duck hunters were having success with more birds coming into the area.

Willmar

CO Jeff Denz (Willmar-West) checked pheasant hunters and noted some success but overall hunting pressure appeared to be down. He checked anglers and followed up on deer-hunting complaints.

CO Shane Vernier (Willmar-East) and CO Taylor Hochstein spent time checking pheasant hunters over opening weekend. They worked area waters for fall anglers and waterfowl hunters. They also followed up on complaints and worked ATV activity.

FOOTBALL

Easy win over Royals secures first-round bye for Tigers

MATT KANE
Sports Editor

WATERTOWN - Delano did what it had to in an attempt to hang on to the second spot for the Section 6-4A playoffs Wednesday night when it defeated Watertown-Mayer 47-6 in the regular-season finale.

The seedings came out Thursday morning, and revealed that the Tigers held on to that No. 2 seed over Big Lake.

The Tigers (5-3) and No. 1 Zimmerman (5-3) get a bye Tuesday for the quarterfinal round. Both will play in the semifinals Saturday, Oct. 27, at their home stadiums.

Delano awaits the winner of No. 3 Big Lake (4-4) and No. 6 Princeton (1-7), and Zimmerman awaits the winner of No. 4 Becker (3-5) and No. 5 Foley (3-5).

Delano finished 4-2 in the East South Central District standings. That was good enough for third place. Dassel-Cokato knocked off Annandale 19-10 Wednesday night, and that knotted the Chargers and Cardinals atop the standings. Both were 5-1 win in league games and 7-1 overall.

At Watertown Wednesday night, the visiting Tigers took control of the game in the first quarter, scoring three touchdowns on its first 10 plays. The instant offense put Delano up 20-0 in the first nine minutes of the game.

Delano added two more touchdowns in the second quarter. Watertown-Mayer found the end zone late in the first half, and the Tigers led 33-0 at the break.

The Tiger reserve took over for most of the second half, scoring two touchdowns.

In the first half, Sam Kern ran for three touchdowns. In the first quarter, alone, he ran for two touchdowns on Delano's first four offensive plays.

After forcing a Watertown-Mayer punt on the fourth play of the game's opening possession, Kern took three consecutive handoffs from Max Otto on a drive that started at the Royals' 32-yard line.

Kern covered those 32 yards on runs of 16, three, and 13 yards.

George Horobin's extra point made



Nowhere to run

Watertown-Mayer running back Carter Entinger runs into Delano's Edward Hajas (56) and Adam Brown in the first quarter Wednesday night. Delano defense didn't budge much in the Tigers' 47-6 win.

PHOTO BY MATT KANE

it 7-0.

Delano's offensive players didn't have time to take their helmets off before receiving the call for duty again. Chuck Campion got the ball back for the Tigers with an interception on the first play of the Royals' ensuing possession.

Two plays later, Kern was back in the end zone, this time at the end of a 30-yard run down the left sideline. He finished the game with 109 yards on six carries.

The extra point made it a 14-0 game after less than three minutes had ticked off the clock.

After forcing Watertown-Mayer to punt, Delano drove 83 yards to the end zone on just five running plays, all of which went for 11-or-more yards. Caden Link started the drive with a 20-yard run, and ended it with a 12-yard touchdown run. In between, Otto ran for 11 yards, Kern ran for 29 yards, and Robbie Knight ran for 11 yards.

East Central South Week 8 Results

Delano 47, Watertown-Mayer 6
Annandale 32, Holy Family 12
Glencoe-Silver Lake 27, Litchfield 20
Dassel-Cokato 19, Zimmerman 10

Two possessions later, following an Otto-to-Trey Longstreet 14-yard completion, Kern was in the end zone again, this time on a 17-yard run in the second quarter.

The Tigers weren't finished before the end of the half. Knight capped an eight play, 88-yard drive with a nine-yard touchdown run.

Horobin's kick was good following Kern's second-quarter touchdown. His two kicks following the Link and Knight runs were both blocked.

Watertown-Mayer finished the first-half scoring. Jamison Keavy caught a pass from Ansen Dulas on a cross pattern over the middle and kept going for a 28-yard touchdown reception with 33 seconds to play. The extra-point try was blocked.

Knight punctuated the opening drive of the second half with a 23-yard sprint to the end zone. He ran for 97 yards on nine carries.

Campion intercepted Dulas for a second time on the Royals ensuing drive, and eight plays into Delano's offensive possession, freshman running back Tate Gallus ran the ball in from five yards out.

Horobin's extra point set the score at 47-6 with 4:39 to play in the third quarter. The rest of the game was played with a running clock.

The two interceptions for Campion gave him three in the last two games. He had a key interception that led to a touchdown drive for the Tigers Oct. 12 in a home win over Litchfield.

Getting the reserves into the game for an abundance of minutes gave Delano's coaches and fans a glimpse of the future, both near and far.

Eighth-grader Cade Bruett, who stands at 6-foot-2, 185 pounds, carried the ball nine times for 33 yards.

The loudest ovation from the veteran players-turned cheerleaders on the Tiger sideline went to freshman quarterback Harry Grant, who took over for Otto with eight minutes to play in the third quarter.

Both quarterbacks did little more than hand the ball off.

Eleven Tiger ballcarriers combined for 358 yards and seven touchdowns on 42 carries.

Delano's offense finished the game with 410 yards.

Otto threw just seven times. He completed three passes for 52 yards. Two of those companions went to Longstreet for 20 yards. The other went to Reno Bredahl for 32 yards.

Otto's connection to Bredahl set up Knight's second-quarter touchdown run.

DELANO 47, WATERTOWN-MAYER 6

Wednesday, Oct. 17

Watertown-Mayer High School

	1	2	3	4	F
DELANO	20	13	14	0	- 47
WATERTOWN	0	6	0	0	- 6

Scoring

First Quarter

D - Kern 14-yard run (Horobin kick), 7-0
D - Kern 30-yard run (Horobin kick), 14-0
D - Link 12-yard run (kick failed), 20-0

Second Quarter

D - Kern 17-yard run (Horobin kick), 27-0
D - Knight 9-yard run (kick failed), 33-0
WM - Dulas 28-yard pass to Keavy (kick failed), 33-6

Third Quarter

D - Knight 23-yard run (Horobin kick), 40-6
D - Gallus 5-yard run (Horobin kick) 47-6

Fourth Quarter

No scoring

Statistics

TEAM Total Yards: Delano 410. Rushing: Delano 42-358 7TD. Passing: Delano 3-52 INT.

INDIVIDUALS Rushing: Delano — Kern 6-109 3TD, Knight 9-97 2TD, Link 4-40 TD, Bruett 9-33, Gallus 3-19 TD, Scherer 3-17, Otto 1-13, Winterhalter 3-13, Colanino 1-8, Rasmussen 2-7, Grant 1-2. Passing: Delano — Otto 3-5 2INT. Receiving: Delano — Longstreet 2-20, Bredahl 1-32. Tackles: Delano — Brown 9, Carver 5, Link 5. Quarterback sacks: Delano — Poll 1.5, Hajas 0.5. Interceptions: Delano — Campion 2.



Youth Movement

The lopsided score Wednesday night at Watertown-Mayer meant an abundance of playing time for Delano's reserves, including the youngest of the bunch. At left: 8th-grader Cade Bruett runs through a tackle; and, above: freshman Harry Grant hands the ball to sophomore Ryan Rasmussen (34) behind a wall of white.

PHOTOS BY MATT KANE

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