



Page 10
Logue sports editor Johnny Kent tells Cubs fans this is the year.



Page 11
Boys baseball looks to rebound against Hoffman after loss to Cary-Grove.

Spring sports by the numbers

Varsity softball state ranking, according to the Daily Herald

13

Number of varsity baseball and softball games canceled due to weather

10

Girls varsity soccer state ranking, according to the Daily Herald

5

Boys varsity volleyball state ranking, according to the Daily Herald

4

Girls varsity badminton state ranking

1

Number of indoor spring sport events canceled due to weather

0

State title defenders tested early

Megan McConnell & Nick Tresnowski
Sports Editors

The Vikings put up a challenge for the Palatine Pirates last Tuesday, coming out on top with a match-clinching win by sophomore Jackie Tiangco.

Doubles team junior Jenna Langhorst and sophomore Erica Lee won their match in two games, 21-19 and 21-17.

Head coach Bob Hanson was proud of his team's drive and focus.

"We won tough matches, and Jackie was clutch when the match came down to her," Hanson said.

Although the team fell to Stevenson 8-7 on April 7, Langhorst won both her games decisively. In the first game, she won by 17 points (21-4) and held serve for 11 points before her opponent scored.

Lee also took first, winning 21-11 in her first game and 21-12 in her second.

Sophomore Alice Liu and senior Marie Kanai beat their challengers by at least three points in each match, but they felt they could have done better.

"We need to be more consistent. When we play bad teams, we play down to their level," Liu said.

Hanson wants his team to display consistency, as well.

"We need to start winning under pressure. In close situations we aren't winning," Hanson said.

On Saturday, April 5, at the Wheaton Warrentville South Invite, Fremd's top two singles players lost their first games of the season against returning state opponents from Hinsdale Central.

Langhorst lost to Hinsdale Central senior Karishma Kollipara, who has won state twice



Logue photo by Grace Lee

READY FOR ACTION. Sophomore Alice Liu prepares to return the birdie to her opponents.

before. Kollipara beat Langhorst 21-9 in the first match and 21-13 in the second match.

Langhorst knows what she needs to do in order to beat Kollipara later in the season.

"Karishma's shots are tight and on target.

She likes to slow down the bird," Langhorst said. "I need to be faster and more consistent. I need to work on my drop shot to make her move."

Every day after badminton practice, Langhorst goes to tennis practice.

"Playing tennis helps me in badminton and improves my foot work," Langhorst said.

The second singles player, Lee, lost to Hinsdale Central senior Alexis Ward in close matches. Lee won the first match 23-21 after coming back from being down 20-16 at Ward's game point.

"I used a lot of energy to come back. I was getting tired by the end of the second game, and by the third game, I was running out of adrenaline," Lee said.

Lee lost 21-18 in the second game and 21-17 in the third game. After playing last season as a doubles player, Lee thinks she needs to improve her stamina.

"I need to work on conditioning," said Lee. "With rally scoring, you can't make a silly mistake."

Doubles players Liu and Kanai took first place at the tournament. Their biggest threat was from Deerfield.

Fremd took the first game. In the second game, the duo lead 17-11, but Deerfield rallied to tie the score at 17-17. Ultimately, Fremd was able to pull away.

"They're really aggressive and like to play fast, so we wanted to come out with intensity," Liu said.

Hanson is confident about his team's road ahead.

"I think the team can make a run for state, and Jenna and Erica could easily make top 16 in state," Hanson said.

On Thursday, Fremd played Conant at home.

State champion contenders start season off with undefeated record

Chris Vainisi
Sports Editor

Coming off a run to the state championship game, the girls soccer team is ranked number five in the area by the Daily Herald. They look to go beyond last year's second place finish.

On April 7, Fremd (4-0) traveled to Wheeling. They took an early 1-0 lead seven minutes into the game when senior Allison Casey scored off senior Melissa Castles' assist.

The Vikings' lead stayed at 1-0 until the 15-minute mark in the second half when senior Ariana Foster found junior Laura Mayer to give the Vikes a 2-0 lead and put the game on ice.

Even though the Vikings won, head coach Steve Keller expected a better performance.

"I was disappointed. We didn't play to our potential," Keller said.

The Vikings took on Buffalo Grove at Fremd on April 4 in their third game of the season.

Fremd took the lead midway through the first half with Casey's goal off junior Kaitlyn Kinsella's corner kick. They led 1-0 until the

last two minutes when the Bison tied the game.

The game was notched at 1-1 for the majority of the second half. At the 19-minute mark, Foster, with two Bison defenders on her back, scored her third goal in two games off her left foot.

The Vikings built on the lead seven minutes later when Kinsella found Mayer on the right side of the box during a break-away.

"I was happy to contribute to the team," Kinsella said. "And despite the poor field conditions, I felt we played very well."

The Vikings put the game out of reach for the Bison three minutes later when Mayer found sophomore Crystal Rohan for the team's fourth goal of the game, giving them a 4-1 win.

Despite the victory, Keller felt they didn't play their best soccer.

"I was disappointed in how we played for most of the game," Keller said. "But I was pleased with how we played in the last 15 minutes of the game, and I hope we can build on it."

In Foster's first year with the Vikings, she has already begun to



Logue photo by Amy Liu

HIGH KICK. Junior Kaitlyn Kinsella kicks the ball out of her zone while playing against Buffalo Grove on Friday, April 4 at Fremd.

bring the team to a new level.

"My scoring has given me a lot of confidence in my first year of high school soccer," Foster said. "It has made me excited to play and ready for the rest of the season."

The Vikes were again on the road at Prospect on April 2. They defeated the Knights by a four-goal margin, winning 5-1. Three players scored for the Vikings.

Foster and senior Susie Plager both had two goals, and senior Alex Ehr added the fifth.

The Vikings started their season off on March 19 by traveling to Lake Zurich where they defeated the Bears, 3-1.

"Our best performance of the season was the first half of the Lake Zurich game," Keller said.

Fremd played Schaumburg on April 9.