

Lightning PRESS



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1

SERVING THE EASTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY SINCE 1997

YOUR
ARTICLE
HERE

NEEDED:

Photographers,
Cartoonists,
and Writers

ATTEND THE
NEWSPAPER
MEETING IN
C336

SEPT. 28th

7 AM or
2:35PM

Finding a Spot in the Classroom

The Perfect Storm: More Students, Less Money & Fewer Teachers

by Grant Anderson
Opinions Editor

As students finish their walk through the halls of Eastview, they may notice that Eastview has become a little more crowded in yet another area, the classroom.

Eastview senior **Stephen Ponce** has certainly noticed larger classes; he was one of the two students without a desk in 4th period AP Government. He expounds, leaning back in the teacher's own chair (his seat for the period), "It is not just my government class either - all of my other classes have similar troubles."

With District 196 receiving approximately \$9 million less than expected from the state, all schools in the area have been affected. Eastview lost five teaching positions this past

year (a loss of 25 classes) while welcoming an incoming freshman class

students alike are noticing the increase.

Superintendent John Currie is also

concerned, "The scenarios we paint for our future are far beyond typical belt tightening and increased efficiency. If we do not receive additional funding from the state, this district and many others will look nothing like they do today." The district cut \$7.5 million this year because of the budget concerns.

Eastview Principal Dr. Dewey sees the solutions for solving this problem to be increased fees, further budget cuts, or a levy referendum

to raise funds locally. The best choice would be for the state to increase allocations for schools, but some combination of all of these is the likely result.

Despite the large class sizes that Eastview and other district schools face,

Class Sizes, p. 2



Photo: Grant Anderson

Thirty doesn't mean 30: Classes hit high thirties in selected cases.

of 629 students (with 50 more students than expected), which replaced last year's senior class of 562 students.

The '03-'04 school year had an average class size of 28 students. This year the Eastview average class size is 30 students. While this is only a 5% increase in class size, teachers and

Decision 2004 Students Volunteer to Make a Political Difference

by James P. Hohmann
Editor-in-Chief

The election season is in full swing. Even apathetic teenagers have not been able to avoid the blitzkrieg of ads, news stories, and water cooler rhetoric. For some students, the election season has stoked a flame of passion for the political process. Five area high school aged students have taken it upon themselves to volunteer in various ways to make a difference in the November election.

Some students worked summer jobs selling ice cream or mowing lawns, but others made their daily job to get votes for their candidate.

Sean Olson, a 2004 graduate of Eastview, was employed by the Democratic National Committee as a 'canvasser.' Olson went door to door all summer long soliciting donations to the Democratic Party. Often Olson would find himself in heated political arguments with Twin Cities' residents whom had never met him before.

Olson feels he is better from the experience.

"Working or volunteering for a political group such as the DNC gave me an opportunity to make new friends with the same interests, and it also gave me a method for conveying my own political convictions," he says.

Olson remembers the most fun moment of his summer experience, "I ended up canvassing [Republican Senator Norm] Coleman's house in St. Paul and was able to talk with him about the election. He thanked us for coming by and said that he was proud we were involved in the campaign process."

On the other side of the aisle, Senior **Ryan Flugaur** has been actively campaigning for George W. Bush and the local Republican Party's candidates. Ryan, after the loss of his father earlier in the summer, believes that volunteering is what his dad would have wanted him to do. Every

time he gets tired, he thinks of his dad's example and works harder.

"This is one of the most important elections of our lifetime. As a battleground state, there's no better place to volunteer," says Flugaur.

Flugaur is always in need of volunteers for the Bush-Cheney phone banks or to help with literature drops. He has also been trying for more than a year to create a chapter of the Minnesota Teenage Republicans at Eastview. He would use this program to increase awareness

about issues and candidates to interested students.

Three other students found somewhat less partisan ways to get involved.

Derek Green, a 2004 graduate of Lakeville High School, worked as an intern for Congressman John Kline (R-MN 2). As an intern, he did not volunteer to help Kline get re-elected

but worked in the office providing services for constituents who requested them.

Green says of his summer, "It was a great to be involved in the process. With so many people fighting overseas, we need to take advantage of our right to get involved in our democratic system."

Senior **Robert Hambrock** is also taking a non-partisan role in this election. Hambrock was the first ever Eastview student to represent Minnesota at the American Legion's Boys Nation program in Washington DC over the summer.

At Boys Nation, Hambrock learned of a non-partisan program called Freedom's Answer. Started in the wake of September 11th, the program seeks to increase voter turnout for young people. The goal of the program is to have 2.5 million students each collect ten pledges to vote on November 2. RecThis would mean 25 million votes in the election. Recent participation by 18 year olds in elections is estimated to be somewhere between 20-30%.

Decision 2004, p. 3



FEATURE

Royalty in the Halls of Eastview

by Liz Hinke
Lightning Reporter

We all have memories from the summer of 2004, whether it be traveling, trying something new, or simply sharing our days and nights with those closest to us. In addition, each summer we can look forward to a tradition; city parades, county and state fairs, or perhaps an annual family vacation in the heat of August. For Alex Elfner and Brooke Kilgariff, however, the annual event that became a definite highlight of their summer was the 2004 American Coed Pageant in Minneapolis.

Each year, American Coed Pageants, now in its 21st season, comes to Minnesota to crown a Queen in 6 different age divisions. This year, over 200 girls gathered in the Minneapolis Hilton to compete for a state crown and a trip to Orlando, Florida to compete for the national title over Thanksgiving weekend.

After 3 days of being scored in the events of Interview, Personal Introduction, and Evening Gown, Alex Elfner, a Senior, and Brooke Kilgariff, a Junior, were both chosen to represent Minnesota for the year 2004-2005 on July 25th.

In a two hour final pageant, the girls paraded in the Hilton ballroom on a brightly lit stage and answered an on

stage question given by the judges to determine who would be chosen to represent their age division.

The suspense was high as family members and friends waited in the



QUEENS: Alex Elfner and Brooke Kilgariff

audience for the most important decision of the night. As the Queen's court was announced, the emcee gave a few encouraging words to all the girls who competed and built the anticipation for

the young women chosen to represent Minnesota.

Impressively, two of our very own walked away with the title. Brooke Kilgariff was chosen as the 2004 Miss Minnesota Jr. Teen, and Alex Elfner was chosen as the 2004 Miss Minnesota Teen.

Additionally, both girls won 3 Optional Contests, qualifying them to compete in the national competition for a cash award. Kilgariff was the State Winner in her respective division for Speech, Talent, and Acting. Likewise, Elfner was awarded the State Title for Speech, Acting, and Photogenic for her age division.

When asked what she liked most about the pageant, Elfner said, "This program is unique because the directors feel it's important to reinforce self-confidence, encourage girls to be involved in their community, and provide the contestants with leadership skills they can use in the future."

According to Elfner and Kilgariff, this upcoming year will be both busy and rewarding. They will continue to make personal appearances, volunteer within the state, and still maintain a busy schedule within Eastview as well.

Class Sizes CONTINUED from p. 1

Dr. Dewey is clear, "District 196 is in one of the best financial situations of districts in the area. The financial situation is not the result of overspending but of assumptions built into the formula [of the 2001 budget plan]." The budget plan he refers to had estimated \$3 million more per year (\$9 million by this year) with the inflation adjustments at 2% per year.

Dr. Dewey addresses the issue, "We spent a great deal of time with department coordinators last spring analyzing student registration requests and available resources, in determining where to use the resources we had." School funding and flexible scheduling to meet student needs often leave little room for balanced classes.

Yet another issue is phasing. Dr. Dewey explains, "Phasing (keeping students with the same teacher all year in ABCD classes) causes the balance of classes to be skewed..." If you didn't phase students with one teacher all year long it would be much easier to hit that average class size of 30. Because of the attempts to keep students with one teacher all year long, and because of electives that are unchangeable from a period (i.e. band or choir) classes may vary from 26 to 34 students.

But despite efforts to combat this, class size remains a concern. "Thirty-four students in an AP class!" Ms. Ginger O'Neill exclaimed, looking around at the students everywhere on the third day of class, "We're looking for two

more desks but I'm not convinced we will have a place to put them... maybe in the corners?" O'Neill has found places for the desks but has also added yet another student to her class.

Honors 9th grade government teacher Ms. Jodi Hanson faces similar problems. "It becomes much more difficult to teach with larger class sizes." Last year she had 30 desks in her room, while this year five more have been added and both of her government classes are completely full at 35 students each. She continues, "There is less opportunity for individual attention for the students... Assessing writing becomes harder with more students." Hanson feels that she would be able to give more in-depth feedback to her students if she had fewer students

Lightning press

VOL. 8 ISS. 1

September 2004

Editor-in-Chief/ Election Page

§ James P. Hohmann

Feature Editor

§ Alex Elfner

Sports Editor

§ Lyle Newman

Front Page Editor

§ Grant Anderson

Staff Columnist

§ Jon Friedman

Reporters

§ Tim DeBord

§ Liz Hinke

§ Katina Petersen

Staff Photographer

§ Tim DeBord

§ Sara Bleaker

Advisor

§ Mr. Charles Hokkanen

Printer

§ School Publications

Company Avon, New Jersey

The Lightning Press is an open forum for student expression. The articles and opinions of the bylined author(s) do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Independent School District 196, the administration of Eastview High School or members of the Editorial Board. All information is current as of September 9, 2004. Our mission as the Editorial Board of the Lightning Press is to provide a quality publication for EVHS that reflects the thoughts and opinions of the students currently attending EVHS.

in class.

Senior Alex Wagner is quick to point out that his teachers have always been able to help him personally. However he is also concerned about class sizes, "I've noticed the increase in class sizes more this year than any other." He concurs with Hanson saying, "It seems that teachers will have a harder time giving that personal attention."

Only time can answer that question. Or the question of whether, as Superintendent John Currie puts it, "this district and many others will look nothing like they do today."

by Jon Friedman
Staff Columnist

Canned Spam: At It Again

Welcome everybody! This starts another year of the article, featuring Eastview's own students for your personal enjoyment. If you don't know already, I am the big hairy guy you may see around school, and this is an article where I come up with some decent and some strange questions to ask your peers. Usually by this time I would have one person from each class answer the questions and give me a quote that they like, but here's what I *thought* you'd say if you'd have said it. 1)What are you hoping to do this year? 2)Who would you want to teach at Eastview? 3)What is your favorite cluster at school? 4)If you had to get a tattoo, what would you get? 5) Any personal quote?

Typical shy freshman guy who doesn't know how to be clever:

1. Um... becoming friends with older kids
2. Usher - that'd be so tight.
3. What's a cluster?
4. Probably a snake, because that would be cool.
5. "Whenever life gets you down, something's bound to bring you back up."

Typical boy-crazed sophomore girl

1. Probably doing well in my classes!
2. Orlando Bloom would be so hot!
3. I don't know. C3
4. A heart on my ankle.
5. Don't fall in love with a guy who won't catch you."



Typical nerd Junior:

1. Becoming a complete leet haxor.
2. Steven Hawking.
3. B4. Ha.
4. A picture of Death on my shoulder.
5. "I'm gonna pawn you, noob!"

Typical Senior with lack of any inhibition and a large ego:

1. Being mean to freshman, so I can get revenge for how I was mistreated!
2. Me.
3. None of them. School is so lame now.
4. What do you mean, "Had to get a tattoo?"
5. "WHAT?! YEAH! OK!"

ELECTION 2004

4 More Years or 4 More Months?

Bush hopes to hold off Kerry

An Eastview Student Reflects on Trips to Political Conventions

by James P. Hohmann
Editor-in-Chief

BOSTON AND NEW YORK CITY- I had the chance to attend both the Democratic and Republican National political conventions this summer. Both conventions were uniquely amazing experiences but the combined effect was to instill in me a better holistic understanding of the way American politics really works.

The media, elected officials, party activists, and interested outsiders all descend on one city once every four years for an action packed week of fun, games, lobbying, hob-knobbing, networking, and ... voter education.

Conventions have turned into one giant infomercial, but they are still of paramount importance in the election season. Conventions are a rare opportunity for a candidate to

differentiate himself from his opponent. Candidates normally have their hour long stump speech chopped up and butchered for the quick one-liner. Interested Americans tuning into the conventions actually hear directly from the candidates.

Political conventions have lost much of the suspense that accompanied them only 40 years ago. In 1948, almost a quarter of the Democratic Party dramatically left the floor of the convention to create the Dixiecrats. In 1964, there was an active campaign on the floor when Barry Goldwater defeated "Rockefeller Republicanism." Today, we know who the nominees are before the convention, and the platform is decided at other meetings and simply approved by a voice vote on the first day. As the platforms have been printed on ever glossier paper, the parties have glossed over some of the divisive issues. Now conventions are like big happy family reunions where everyone sings kumbaya.

Political conventions as we know them are uniquely American phenomena. The existence of only two real credible political options creates the need for a 'big tent,' a party that draws in a diverse swath of voters. For example, (although rare) there is such a thing as a Jewish-black-gay-pro-choice-labor-Republican. Believe me. I met one.



Live from New York...It's the RNC!

At the Democratic Convention, I sat next to two African gentlemen who I discovered were the two key leaders of the Mozambique government. They asked me questions all through the night trying to better understand American politics. I asked them what the biggest difference was between American and Mozambique politics. They said, "America is way too complicated. In Mozambique, we just choose the leaders."

As different as party members may be in their beliefs, during the convention differences seem to be almost completely cast aside. Each group still has their own caucus meetings, and each state still meets every day by delegation. I went to meetings of numerous states and several caucus rallies. At these meetings I learned that the agenda of each party is shaped by competing internal factions and that most of what happens in politics comes to fruition when no one is looking.

Both parties tend to evoke certain memories to fire up their base and to help hit home the importance of their election.

The Democrats continually refer to November 7, 2000, when they feel George Bush stole the election from Al Gore. The Republicans evoke the tragedy of September 11, 2001 to demonstrate the importance of experienced leadership in the War on Terror.

As I spent time with activists in both parties, I came to appreciate more than ever that everyone in politics really feels that their side has the best ideas. Most volunteers on the left and the right are generous and kind. Both sides are passionate and energized. Both sides continually reiterate that this is the most important election in our lifetime, and they believe it.

The rallying cry of the Democrats this year at the convention seemed to be "Help is on the Way." The Republicans used a mix between "Four More Years" and "Win one for the Gipper." The latter being a reference to former President Ronald W. Reagan.

America is polarized. Visiting both conventions allowed me the ability to examine and better understand the real differences that exist between the candidates. After leaving New York, I understood that I had been watching history unfold before my own eyes.



ON THE TRAIL IN MINNESOTA: President Bush and Senator Kerry have both recognized Minnesota as an essential state to victory in 2004 (All photos on page taken by James Hohmann)

Why do the candidates keep coming to Minnesota?

There is a good chance that, for the first time since 1972, the Republican candidate for President could win Minnesota. Minnesota has the longest running streak for voting Democratic in presidential elections. Now it seems that the race in the only state Ronald Reagan did not win in 1984 is a dead heat.

A September 5 Rasmussen poll shows Bush and Kerry tied at 46%. The Cook Political Report last week pinpointed Minnesota as one of the ten most important states this election.

A notoriously unreliable Star Tribune Minnesota Poll conducted September 7-13 finds that Kerry has the support of 50% of likely voters, while Bush has the support of 41%. Nader is polling at just about 1%. The President's support has increased three points from the level it was at in March.

USA Today analysis released on September 10 finds Minnesota, based on the amount of time and money that candidates have spent, to be one of the most prized gems in the race. In 2000, Gore and Bush each visited Minnesota only once. Kerry has come to the state six times this election season, and the President has made the trip five times. His most recent visit last Friday to St. Cloud, Blaine, and Rochester demonstrates that Republicans are continuing to target Gopher Country for a win in November.

The state has also been trending Republican for quite sometime, as the GOP now controls the state house solidly, controls all but one statewide elected office, and comprises half the US Congressional delegation.

How did this reliably Democratic state become so contested? The growth and development of suburbs, traditionally conservative, like Apple Valley and Eagan has meant a powerful base of support for Republican candidates. The south suburbs record voter turnout in 2002 is widely credited with catapulting Norm Coleman and Tim Pawlenty into office.

The elimination of heavy traditional blue-collar labor jobs in the northern part of the state has decreased union power and invariably that of the Democratic Party.

Another factor in the Minnesota contest though is that while fiscally conservative, many Minnesotans are known to be more 'progressive' on liberal social issues like abortion, gay marriage, and health care.

The Star Tribune found that actively religious people strongly favor Bush, and those who rarely or never worship favor Kerry.

The level of turnout among Republican and Democratic bases on November 2 will determine which candidate takes the state and its prize.



THEATRE IN THE ROUND: NY Gov. George Pataki introduces President Bush in Madison Square Garden at the Republican Convention earlier this month.

Decision 2004 continued from p. 1

Hambrock is working to coordinate an Eastview-wide effort to get as many pledges as possible from those students at Eastview who will be eligible to vote but might not necessarily turn out.

"After September 11th, there was an increased interest in politics. Some of that has started to die down. Freedom's Answer is trying to get young people to care more about democracy and voting," Hambrock explains. He does not necessarily care who the voters he gets pledges from will choose on Election Day but rather that they vote.

If not recruiting voters, students can volunteer to be election judges and count the votes. This non-partisan position requires the worker to spend the day at the polling place helping voters get checked in, distributing ballots, and making sure ballots are properly fed in the voting machines.

Senior Erik Didrikson has signed up to participate in this program for both the primary election in September and the general election in November.

A regular election judge needs to be at least 18 on Election Day, but Minnesota offers those under 18 the ability to serve as election judge trainees. Anyone interested can visit the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.mn.us.

Students who want to get involved in party politics should go to their party of preference's website or call the local offices for ways to volunteer. Although the Presidential election receives the lion share of attention, state and national house candidates are also looking for volunteers. Anyone interested in volunteering for Freedom's Answer can contact Robert Hambrock or visit www.freedomanswer.net.

SPORTS

Cross Country Cruises through the Lake

by Katina Peterson
Lightning Reporter

The Girl's Cross Country team is already off and running toward what should be a very good season. The team is led by coaches Jorjean "Fish" Fischer, and Emily Barkley with captains **Natalie Yarbrough**, **Tarah Regan**, and **Nicole Heppelmann**. This year, leadership is strong, as eleven of the twenty-five team members are seniors and sixteen are returning runners. The team only lost three seniors from last year. **Tarah Regan** says, "The team is basically the same except we should be stronger because of new talent and a lot of summer miles."

The girls' first displayed their improved team depth at the Dakota County Invitational held September 1, 2004 at Apple Valley High School when the varsity team finished third of nine teams and the junior varsity finished second of seven. **Natalie Yarbrough** finished second while the other varsity runners all finished in the top half, taking places 16, 23, 24, 26, 27, and 28 out of 61 competitors. Top JV runners included sophomore **Raija Naegeli** (12th) and freshmen **Jenae Becker** (13th) and **Hannah Newman** (16th).

To get these kinds of results, the girls have been working hard – not only in practice, but also by running plenty of summer miles. **Yarbrough** says "summer miles build a solid base for a strong season." The team motto "Go the Distance," unchanged from last year, is truly a better fit this year as the runs have been longer and the practices have been harder since the team is more experienced and stacked with older runners. Last season was a rebuilding year for the team as the program lost many outstanding seniors; this year the team is ready to run. The average practice consists of a barefoot walk to strengthen their feet followed by a fifteen minute warm-up run and plyos to work on running form. Then the workout begins. The girls run anywhere from three to nine miles, unless they are doing a hill or speed workout in which they give sprinting their best attempt. The practice ends with a cool down run, some time in the weight room, and a lot of stretching to keep muscles loose.

With all the work that they're doing, the girls feel confident that they're much improved from last year. Returning varsity runners **Natalie Yarbrough** (12), **Katina Petersen** (12), **Tarah Regan** (12), **Cassie Brady** (10), and **Rachel Stack** (10) along with the new faces of **McKenzie Melander** (9) and **Kelsey Rowley** (12) hope to take the team to new levels of competition with the goal of bringing the Eastview team up to the same caliber as rivals Apple Valley, Lakeville, and Eden Prairie. The girls are striving to improve their fifth place finish at Conference and seventh place finish at Regions from last year. Why do they do it? "Cross country is a hard sport but it's worth it. At the end of your race you know your hard work paid off," says **Yarbrough**. "We just like to run," **Regan** adds. "It's as simple as that."

Lightning Tennis Ready to Defend Title 'Racket'ing up the wins

by Tim DeBord
Lightning Reporter

These are heady days for fans of Eastview Lightning tennis. Last spring wrapped up a year of Lake Conference dominance for the boys' and girls' programs as both the teams smashed their way to their respective titles. While the boys have to wait until spring to defend their title, the girls have already hit the court with thoughts of back-to-back championships. Loaded with optimism, unity and an extremely talented line-up, they are sure to be both Lake Conference and Section contenders late in the fall.

Though the Lightning face an uphill battle in the always-talented Lake, captains **Thuy Trinh** and **Kelsie Allan** have made sure that their team enters the season as just that... a team. "As much as tennis is individual," says **Trinh**, "in the end it always comes down to the team." Acting on her words, the captain set up several events to encourage team togetherness including an overnight party, a bowling party and a team activity on a ropes course. The closeness of the team as a result of their activities is evident at their matches as all team members can often be heard giving loud support to their teammates.

The girls have begun their season with a record of 2-1. They defeated Duluth East in their first match of the season and most recently routed Chaska 6-1, but lost a tough contest against Eden Prairie in their Lake Conference opener by a score of 4-3. The Lightning played hard and competed well, but came up just short against the traditional

powerhouse Eagle team. Though obviously not the result the team was looking for, they have not given up on their repeat hopes. The girls continue to have confidence in their above average lineup which has landed them

iceberg waiting to sink opponents as the well-rounded Lightning send out accomplished players at all positions. Together the girls are looking forward to finishing the year to the best of their ability.

The regular season continues into the first week of October and the Section 1AA tournament starts October 5th. The key match remaining in the girls' schedule is against Lakeville, also considered one of the top teams in the conference, on September 27th. Seniors **Thuy Trinh**, **Tricia Rogers**, **Emily Bryan**, **Lisa Graf**, **Lisa Nguyen** and **Jennifer Reinke** all play their final regular season home match that day with the possibility of returning for a Section match based on tournament seeds. The graduated class of players will be missed, but the Lightning's underclass talent is waiting in the wings to dominate another day. Sophomore **Williams** and junior **Olson** return for another season accompanied by junior captain **Kelsie Allen** and junior



Photo: Tim DeBord

SERVE IT UP: Senior **Thuy Trinh** returns a serve against Chaska.

on the high school pages of the local newspapers. The Pioneer Press rates the Lightning as fourth best in the Metro area with several individuals gaining recognition for their talents as well. The newspaper ranks three Eastview players in the top 20, including senior **Lisa Nguyen** at #8, sophomore **Megan Williams** at #13, and junior **Dawn Olson** at #18. But these three players are only the tip of the

Alyssa Frazee, who has played well at doubles this year. Rounding out the returning doubles players are sophomore **Rachel Lee** and junior **Sarah Schletty**, both of whom stand to make a large impact on next year's team.

The tennis program encourages new fans to come out to the courts and be a part of the winning tradition established at Eastview. The girls' schedule is readily available in the school calendar and most matches will start at 3:45.

Soccer Squad Struggles Early

"Working hard, working together to build a proud tradition"

by Lyle Newman
Sports Editor

The team maintains their high hopes even as the start of the season has not gone as well as some had hoped for or expected. The Lightning, as of last Wednesday, has a disappointing record of 2-4-2 for the start of the season. They lost in an 5-0 upset to Duluth East and narrowly missed topping rival Apple Valley last wee "While we're all really close friends, we just can't seem to pull it together on the field," Varsity senior **Lindsay Dallas** explains. **Dallas** still has confidence that the team will shape up as the season goes on and the team makes a run for the playoffs.

It seems the girls have already played more games this season than nearly all the rest of the fall athletic eams combined. Their schedule, if verloaded, has the athletes excited about the rest of the season. The team is averaging three games per week, the quality of play, however, did diminish.



Photo: Mark Eliason

LIVE-STRONG: Alisha Santoorjian passes the ball.

Instead, led by captains **Sara Bleeker**, **Sam Rondeau**, and **Maria Robideau**, they continued to play with heart and powered through overtimes. Many

attribute their strength this year to an early start at conditioning by Coach Bierlein last spring. Besides their physical endurance, other keys to their success include a large base of players to work from, with an amazing 110 athletes trying out this year.

Leadership to get into the postseason will come from a group of 13 returning letter winners from last year's playoff team. These include strikers **Caitlin Lynch** and **Janine Oxley**, midfielders **Sara Bleeker**, **Sam Rondeau**, **Maria Robideau**, **Allie DeBord**, **Aryn Brunsen**, **Alisha Santoorjian**, and **Meagan Dallas**, and defenders **Allison Kariya**, **Lindsay Dallas**, and **Erinn North**. Coach Beirlein includes "the ability to play many of the girls at different positions" as one of their strengths. This versatility should translate into playoff success late this fall.