

Freshman shows dominance early in the

By Trevor Mieczkowski & Olivia Robinson
ASSISTANT EDITOR & STAFF REPORTER

When Chad Lorkowski took the mound for his varsity debut against Brother Rice, it was obvious he was not the typical freshman athlete. Standing at 6'4", he soars above most of his older teammates.

But as the stands filled and players took the field, Lorkowski felt the pressure to live up to his expectations and prove his doubters wrong.

"I had a lot of people underestimate me, and some were expecting a lot from me," Lorkowski said. "So I was nervous because I wanted to prove some people wrong and just show what I can do."

And he did. Lorkowski's first two outings ended with a perfect 0.00 ERA as he didn't allow a single run to be scored against the Norsemen.

While being thrust onto the varsity team as a freshman may seem daunting, Lorkowski is no stranger to pressure. In fact, it's the force that drives his dominating pitching ability.

"I like having a lot of pressure on me and being in the moment," he said.

In 2013, Lorkowski struck out 10 batters and smashed two home runs to help Grosse Pointe Woods-Shores Little League win the Great Lakes Region Championship game. He ultimately ended up pitching in front of millions of viewers on ESPN.

Lorkowski's mother, Alison Lorkowski, noticed her son's athletic ability from a very young age.

"When Chad just learned to walk, he was walking out the side door, and all of a sudden he fell and almost hit the ground, and he just jumped up," Alison said. "I've never seen a baby do that before. So when he was really little, it was so noticeable. He's never been awkward. He's always been really coordinated."

When Lorkowski tried out for eighth-grade basketball, he was already laying the groundwork

for making the varsity baseball team as a freshman.

Head varsity baseball coach Frank Sumbera also coached Lorkowski in basketball at Parcels Middle School and immediately noticed Lorkowski's athletic ability.

After working with Lorkowski in eighth grade, Sumbera knew that bringing him up to varsity as a freshman would be an easy decision.

"I knew what his talents were as a pitcher before (tryouts)," Sumbera said. "I thought he was definitely a prospect to being an outstanding pitcher, so I decided quite a long time ago that I was going to have him on the varsity."

Sumbera saw evidence of Lorkowski's drive in other sports.

"I always knew he was a big competitor-I knew that from basketball-and you could watch him even in Little League. He was very competitive, so I'm not surprised by his success I'm just surprised by how good it is," Sumbera said.

According to teammate John Chanske, Lorkowski is also a benefit to the team off the field.

"He's a really good source of entertainment on the

bench," Chanske said. "When he's not pitching, he's really funny."

Halfway through the season, Lorkowski's gone 25 innings without giving up a run.

Overall, Lorkowski's future baseball aspirations are in favor of the entire team, not just himself.

"I wanna make a state championship run," Lorkowski said. "I just want to be one of the best teams in the state."

Contributing: Anna Post



KATELYN'S KORNER
KATELYN CARNEY

Time for Holland to go

Wait a minute.

Put away the pitchforks. Hold back the lynch mobs. And certainly, don't shoot the messenger. It is time for the adoring public to open their eyes and see the bloom is off the rose that once adorned Ken Holland's crown.

How is that possible? 2016 marked 25 straight years in the playoffs (the next closest is the Penguins with 10 straight.) In his tenure, the Red Wings have more wins (907) than any other franchise in the NHL, including 118 playoff victories. Under his guidance, they accumulated three Stanley Cups, four President's Trophies, most points, 10 Central Division titles and five regular season Western Conference titles.

An impressive resume like that should guarantee lifetime employment, a deal similar to the Pope's. Certainly a heresy such as calling for this man's job shouldn't come from a column that consistently has preached against the win-at-all-costs mentality.

But before we pick out a spot for the Hall of Fame plaque in the new Little Caesar's Arena (catchy name, isn't it?), let's follow the Wall Street example and look how it is trending.

The Red Wings haven't won a Stanley Cup since 2008. Not what is expected in Hockeytown.

We have won three playoff series in seven years. Not what is expected in Hockeytown. We lost in the first round of the playoffs three years in a row. Not what is expected in Hockeytown.

We finished third, third, fourth, third, third in our division in the last five years. Certainly not what is expected in Hockeytown.

A closer look at Ken Holland's career shows that the majority of his successes were early in his Red Wing General Manager post, prior to the salary cap era in the NHL. Holland made magic when the Illitch's opened up the wallet and money was no object. Now that he can't just add superstars like Brett Hull, Luc Robitaille, Chris Chelios, Dominik Hasek, etc. as if he were playing fantasy hockey, the results haven't been pretty. Now that he must play by the same rules that all of the other General Managers do, Detroiters are rarely the Cup favorites.

Holland has blundered the franchise into struggling for mediocrity to keep the precious playoff streak alive. By hanging onto aging stars such as Datsyuk, Zetterberg and Kronwall, he has only injured players and a 75 million dollar hit against the cap as Pavel retires into the Russian sunset. Trades for the likes of David Legwand, Erik Cole and Marek Zidlicky flopped miserably and cost prospects such as Calle Jarnkrok and Mattias Janmark who contribute on playoff teams.

Holland is a victim of his own success. Fires that run hot, ignite from a spark and that last ember is now smoldering. Like other iconic Detroit General Managers Joe Dumars and Dave Dombrowski know, everybody is replaceable. Ken Holland must leave if the title, "Hockeytown," is not to be tarnished permanently.

Sailing team qualifies for regional finals



Sophomore John Huskin with his crew and sophomore Adam Weinkauff cross the starting line at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club Mallory regatta.



The sailing team meet to prepare for the Mallory regional championship at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club Sunday, May 1.

By Billy Moin
CO-MANAGING EDITOR

One of the things sophomore John Huskin enjoys most about sailing is its versatility.

"I can choose whether I want to have fun and relax, or I can choose ... to be serious and really dedicated and have some really great competition," Huskin said.

This past month, Huskin and the rest of the varsity sailing team chose the more competitive route, leading them to the regional championships.

After kicking off the season with a regatta in Holland, Michigan, the sailing team took to Traverse City for the Midwest Interscholastic Sailing Association (MISSA) East regatta from Saturday, April 23 to Sunday, April 24. This Regatta began the road to the national championships for both the Mallory and Baker events.

There are two events in high school sailing. The Mallory is a fleet racing event. For these races, each school at the regatta fields two boats, one in A fleet and one in B fleet. The two boats race separately against the other schools, and at the end of the event, the school with the lowest combined A and B scores wins. Unlike the Mallory, the Baker is a team racing event in which two schools race head-to-head with three boats each. The six boats race around the course, and the winner is decided based on different winning combinations.

The team was able to qualify for regional championships in both events, taking third out of seven in the Baker and second out of eight in the Mallory.

Their performance at Traverse City was a step forward for the team, which took second to last in both events just a year before. The team was able to do this despite gaining several newcomers to the team this year.

"We've improved very drastically," sophomore Ellie Frame said. "Last year, we got second to last in the Traverse City regatta, so it was a big change. We (have sophomore) John Huskin on the team this year, so he's really helping our team."

Although Huskin is new to the team this year, he is one of the team's more experienced sailors and is proud of the way

the team has sailed this year.

"The season has gone really well," Huskin said. "From what I've heard, we've been doing better than last year, which I'm grateful for."

Qualifying at Traverse City advanced the team to the MISSA Baker National Qualifier in Lake Forest, Illinois this past weekend. This was a team-racing event against the top schools from the Midwest region. But the team fell short of advancing to the final round and qualifying for the Baker national championship.

"Our team was hoping to make it top half, and see what the big competition is in our region, and hope to learn from them," Frame said. "I think we tried our best-we definitely learned-and we beat the winner from the last regatta one-on-one, so I think we really did well on that."

Taking third in the Mallory at Traverse City qualified the team for the MISSA Mallory Doublehanded Championship at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. This was the regional championship for fleet racing. However, the team was not able to capitalize on its accomplishments at Traverse City, and only managed to place 14 out of 20, stopping them from proceeding to those national championships as well.

Even though the team failed to move on in both events, head coach Dan Nikesch was positive about the results and pointed out that the team is mostly composed of sophomores, while their competition is mainly juniors and seniors.

Despite its youth, the sailors still managed to be the second best of the seven Michigan schools that qualified for the tournament. Nikesch said he hopes the experience the team gained at the regatta will give it an advantage and allow it to compete for a spot in the national championship in years to come.

"The (advantage) they're going to have when they're juniors and seniors over lots of students from throughout the Midwest is they'll have already competed at the regional level," Nikesch said. "Students from other schools right now are currently sitting at home because they don't make their teams to travel to those types of events."



Although it is his first year on the team, sophomore John Huskin has been sailing for six years. "I think if I were to be on the team last year, I would have had a lot more experience this year. I would've known who I'm up against, how I need to practice to be better," Huskin said.