

► INSIDE PREP HOCKEY

Athlete of the Week

CORY SIMONS
Prairie Ridge, sr

The Wolves' goalie came up big in games Sunday and Monday to help Prairie Ridge qualify for the four-team playoffs in the High School Invitational Tournament.



Simons had 34 saves Sunday as the Wolves nipped Loyola Gold, 2-1, in their HIT game. Simons and the defense withstood constant pressure in the third period from the Ramblers.

Against Stevenson on Monday, Simons had 18 saves as the Wolves tied Stevenson, 1-1, to gain another point in the HIT standings.

The win and tie put the Wolves, who are finished with HIT games, into second place in the HIT standings.

Noteworthy

Wolves' big week: Prairie Ridge sits in second place in the High School Invitational Tournament standings and is assured a spot in the four-team playoffs after the tournament.

The HIT is a 12-team round-robin, season-long tournament with many of the state's top

teams. New Trier Green (10-0-0, 20 points) is the only team ahead of Prairie Ridge (7-2-2, 16), which is done with HIT regular-season games.

The Wolves will finish second in the standings and will play Stevenson (15), Loyola Gold (12) or St. Rita (12) in the HIT playoff semifinals, Feb. 22 in Wilmette.

HIT Standings

Team	Gm	W-L-T	Pts.
New Trier Green	10	10-0-0	20
Prairie Ridge	11	7-2-2	16
Stevenson	11	6-2-3	15
Loyola Gold	10	5-3-2	12
St. Rita	10	5-3-2	12
Glenbrook North	10	3-4-3	9
Fenwick	8	3-4-1	7
Glenbrook South	9	3-5-1	7
Providence	9	3-6-0	6
Barrington	10	2-7-1	5
Sandburg	9	1-6-2	4
Neuqua Valley	10	1-8-1	3

Note: The tournament is a 12-team round robin event, so those with 11 games have completed their HIT games.

All-Star day: Sunday is the Chicago Metropolitan Hockey League's All-Star games at West Meadows Ice Arena in Rolling Meadows.

The Metro Northwest, in which Huntley plays, meets the Metro West at noon. The Metro Central, in which the area's other five teams play, faces the Metro North at 5:30 p.m.

Huntley's Adam Vance and

Cameron Marzejon will represent the Metro Northwest. The Red Raiders combine this season with Lake Zurich.

Crystal Lake South, which will finish second in the Metro Central American Division, will have Kenny Hall, Eric Purcell, Mark Greenberg, Max Hamrick and Eric Bartos on the Central squad.

Jacobs will have Jeremy Gotardo, Ed Weine and Alex Crescenti, Cary-Grove will have Jack Segerson and Matt Rowe, and the CCM Tigers will have Kevin Smith on the team.

This week's top games

PREP vs. Cary-Grove
6:10 p.m. today
Crystal Ice House

The Trojans are trying to move up in the Metro Central American Division standings as they take on PREP, which is in third place.

- Joe Stevenson
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