

Inside scoop

When the dust settled on last year's double-overtime state Class 2A title game, Maple Grove knew it wouldn't have to wait long to try and avenge yet another state tournament disappointment.

The lineup was full of returning talent. The players had high school and youth hockey state tournament experience. The motivation was at an all-time high.

The revenge tour was on for Maple Grove, but it didn't come without some trepidation.

Superstar Landen Gunderson opted to play junior hockey, forgoing his senior season. Losses to section rivals Champlin Park and Rogers late in the season cast doubts on the Crimson from so-called experts.

But the Crimson (22-5-1) rallied, found a new set of stars and eliminated both Champlin Park and Rogers in the 5AA playoffs to earn a return trip to St. Paul with one last box to check.

No. 23

CONFERENCE:
Northwest Suburban
RECORD: 22-5-1
STATE TRIPS: 6
COACH: Todd Bergland,
7th year (143-50-6)
HOME ARENA:
Maple Grove
Community Center

Team snapshot

FORWARDS: Maple Grove averaged 5.29 goals per game and scored five or more goals 14 times. The Crimson have four forwards who have notched over 30 points, led by Mr. Hockey finalist Finn Brink's 31-goal, 68-point campaign. Jack Kernan (57 points), Blake Steenerson (45 points) and Lucas Busch (42 points) also produced impressive totals.

DEFENSEMEN: Lucas Margenau and Grant Leneau collect points at the rate of a forward and have a combined 60 points. Margenau, while undersized, plays huge minutes and quarterbacks Maple Grove's potent power play - the senior blueliner tallied three goals and 14 points on the man-advantage this season

GOALIES: Senior Jack Roach has had his ups and downs this season, but he's pieced together a 17-win campaign with five shutouts while backstopping the Crimson to a fourth-straight Class 2A tournament berth.

Stats

NO.	NAME	GR	POS	G	Α	PTS	PIM
27	Finn Brink	12	F	31	37	68	12
15	Jack Kernan	12	F	19	38	57	26
18	Blake Steenerson	12	F	18	27	45	22
21	Lucas Busch	11	F	14	28	42	12
13	Lucas Margenau	12	D	9	23	32	18
14	Grant Leneau	12	D	10	18	28	14
16	Jay Ellingson	12	F	8	11	19	12
3	Ty Patefield	12	F	5	13	18	10
22	Andrew Karkoc	11	F	5	11	16	2
26	Beck Picconatto	12	D	3	10	13	14
37	Joey Imgrund	11	F	7	5	12	14
10	Jacob Sinclair	12	F	5	4	9	10
25	Luke Giuliani	11	F	4	5	9	25
28	Connor Stelljes	11	D	1	8	9	6
7	Preston Moses	11	F	2	5	7	0
12	Riley Bot	12	F	4	3	7	4
40	Joey Leafblad	10	D	1	5	6	10
5	Owen Smith	11	D	1	4	5	2
6	Gavin Anderson	11	D	0	5	5	10
24	Andrew Leafblad	12	D	1	3	4	0
35	Zach Price	10	G	0	1	1	0
1	Jack Roach	12	G	0	0	0	2
NO.	NAME	GR	MIN	W-L-T	GAA	sv%	so
1	Jack Roach	12	1166:4	5 0017-5	5-1 2.19	.910	5
33	Michael Burtness	12	178:34	3-0-0	0.29	.979	2
35	Zach Price		102:00	2-0-0	0.00	1.000	2

BY THE NUMBERS Power Play Percentage: 42 Penalty Kill Percentage: 83 Goals Scored Per Game: 5 Goals Allowed Per Game: 1

Schedule

11/25	@ Edina	W:	2-0
11/26	@ Wayzata	L	1-5
12/1		W 1	5-0
12/3		L	
12/8	@ Spring Lake Park	W:	9-0
12/10	@ Blaine	w	8-0
12/15	Coon Rapids	W	4-0
12/20	@ Centennial	W	4-2
12/27	Cretin-Derham Hall	W	6-3
12/28			
12/29			
1/5	@ Andover	W	4-1
1/7		W 1	
1/12	@ R. Armstrong/Cooper	W	6-3
1/14	Rogers T	3-3/	ŌΤ
1/19	@ Champlin Park L	1-2/	01
1/21			
1/26	Osseo	W	8-0
1/27	Grand Rapids	W	8-1
1/28	Centennial L	6-7/	OT
2/2	Totino-Grace	W	2-0
2/3	@ Rogers Andover	L	2-5
2/11			
2/14	Hill-Murray	W	5-2
2/18	@ St. Thomas Academy	w.	4-3
	SECTION 5AA PLAYOFI	s	
OIOF	0		

SECTION 5AA PLAYOFF 2/25 Osseo

2/25 Osseo 2/28 Champlin Park 3/2 @ Rogers

Coach Todd Bergland

Bergland is back for his fifth state tournament since taking over Maple Grove's program in 2015-16. The state championship hasn't come yet, but with Bergland's consistency and the massive feeder program making sure he has a stacked lineup each year, it's hard to see Maple Grove not winning it all soon. Bergland's brother Tim is the head coach at Thief River Falls.



By the numbers

42.9: The Crimson racked up the best power-play percentage in Class 2A this winter, scoring on a remarkable 42.9 percent of their chances with the man-advantage.