



Minnetonka SKIPPERS



JAVON MOORE
FORWARD



JOHN STOUT
DEFENSEMAN



KAIZER NELSON
GOALIE

Inside scoop

When Minnetonka head coach Sean Goldsworthy met with the media following the Skippers' 2-1 double-overtime victory over Chanhassen in the Section 2AA final, he said exactly what everyone had been thinking since the first puck dropped on the 2022-23 season.

"We're the No. 1 team in the state," he said. "We've played everybody, we've beaten everybody."

Minnetonka (26-2-0) enters the state tournament as the biggest stand-alone favorite since Duluth East in 2012. The Skippers roll three lines, suffocate opponents defensively and cruise into St. Paul on a 17-game winning streak.

Goldsworthy, who is making his second trip to the Xcel Energy Center as Minnetonka's bench boss, knows a thing or two about getting the job done — he led the team to its first state title in 2018.

His current group of Skippers might be even better and are the clear favorites to hoist the big prize Saturday night in St. Paul.

No. 1

Info

CONFERENCE:
Lake
RECORD: 26-2-0
STATE TRIPS: 7
COACH:
Sean Goldsworthy,
6th year (115-37-9)
HOME ARENA:
Pagel Activity Center,
Minnetonka

Team snapshot

FORWARDS: The depth of Minnetonka up front is unmatched. The Skippers have three Division I-committed forwards in Javon Moore (Minnesota), Sam Scheetz (Vermont) and Alex Lunski (St. Thomas). Hagen Burrows (45 points) and Gavin Garry (42 points) lead the team in points, and sophomore sensation Ashton Schultz (33 points) isn't far behind.

DEFENSEMEN: 'Tonka allowed just 1.11 goals-per-game, thanks in large part to the state's best defensive pairing in senior captain Liam Hupka and future Minnesota-Duluth Bulldog John Stout, a junior.

GOALIES: Senior Kaizer Nelson took over the starting job late last season and has been locked in ever since. His .933 save percentage and seven shutouts each rank among the best in the state this year.

Stats

NO.	NAME	GR	POS	G	A	PTS	PIM
19	Hagen Burrows	11	F	21	24	45	20
15	Gavin Garry	11	F	18	24	42	18
11	Ashton Schultz	10	F	13	20	33	4
22	Javon Moore	11	F	10	23	33	10
10	Luke Garry	11	F	12	13	25	6
21	Sam Scheetz	11	F	9	16	25	4
12	Alex Lunski	11	F	11	13	24	15
23	John Stout	11	D	6	18	24	4
17	Liam Hupka	12	D	4	13	17	12
9	Jack Sand	12	F	5	10	15	21
33	Robby House	11	D	2	10	12	10
3	Danny Klaers	10	D	1	10	11	4
7	Jake McCuskey	12	F	6	3	9	6
8	Max Krebsbach	12	F	4	4	8	4
16	Danny Pasqua	12	D	3	5	8	2
2	Ryan Holzer	12	D	0	5	5	10
29	Gabe Tibbitts	12	D	0	1	1	0
5	Brayden Thompson	11	D	0	0	0	2

NO.	NAME	GR	MIN	W-L-T	GAA	SV%	SO
31	Kaizer Nelson	12	1186:50	21-2-0	1.16	0.933	7
1	Hunter Bauer	11	255:00	5-0-0	0.40	0.973	3

BY THE NUMBERS
Power Play Percentage: 28.8%
Penalty Kill Percentage: 89.5%
Goals Scored Per Game: 4.46
Goals Allowed Per Game: 1.11

Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
11/25	Rochester Mayo	W 8-2
11/26	Andover	W 4-1
12/1	Bloomington Jefferson	W 9-1
12/3	Moorhead	W 3-0
12/8	@ Rosemount	W 3-2/OT
12/10	@ Chanhassen	L 1-4
12/15	Prior Lake	W 6-1
12/17	Rogers	W 5-0
12/28	@ Grand Rapids	W 4-1
1/5	@ Hill-Murray	W 5-0
1/7	Wayzata	L 1-3
1/10	@ Eastview	W 5-0
1/12	@ Buffalo	W 8-0
1/14	Duluth East	W 4-1
1/17	@ Chaska	W 7-1
1/19	Edina	W 4-0
1/21	@ Eden Prairie	W 3-2
1/26	St. Michael-Albertville	W 6-1
1/28	@ Lakeville South	W 5-2
2/2	@ Wayzata	W 4-2
2/4	Buffalo	W 6-0
2/9	St. Louis Park	W 4-0
2/11	@ Edina	W 1-0
2/16	Eden Prairie	W 4-3
2/18	@ St. Michael-Albertville	W 6-2

SECTION 2AA PLAYOFFS		
2/21	Chaska	W 4-0
2/25	Shakopee	W 3-1
3/2	@ Chanhassen	W 2-1/OT

Coach Sean Goldsworthy

Goldsworthy, a Minnetonka graduate, led his alma mater to a state championship in 2018. Now in his sixth season behind the Skippers' bench, Goldsworthy had a lengthy stint as the head coach of Division III St. Olaf before returning to Minnetonka.



By the numbers

6-0: Top-ranked Minnetonka went unbeaten in six meetings against fellow Class 2A tournament teams during the regular season.