



PROGRAM INFO

Nickname: Mustangs
Conference: Tri-Metro
Section: 2A
Record: 26-2-0
State trips: 1994, 96, 97, 2000 Champs, 04 Champs, 09 Champs, 10
Coach: Les Larson

STAT LEADERS

Scorers	G	A	Pts
Tyson Fulton	34	50	84
Mike Morin	33	28	61
Riley Borer	18	40	58
Chase Nystedt	26	23	49
Wesley Iverson	16	23	39

Goalies	W-L-T	GA	SV
John Russell	19-2-0	1.43	.934

FULL ROSTER

#	Name	Pos	Gr
1	Max McCormick	F	11
3	Michael Mooney	D	12
4	Joe Zeidler	D	12
5	Conor Andrie	F	10
7	Ben Gislason	D	12
8	Mike Morin	F	12
9	Riley Borer	F	12
10	Cameron Born	F	12
14	Grant Opperman	F	10
17	Chase Nystedt	F	12
18	Charlie Borer	F	12
19	Nate Traina	F	10
20	Shayne Ciernia	D	11
22	Brenden Yates	F	12
23	Tyson Fulton	F	12
24	Austin Rudnick	D	10
25	David Crowe	D	12
26	Wesley Iverson	F	10
27	David Zosel	F	11
39	John Russell	G	12

ROAD TO THE X

Section 2A Quarters, 2/26
Breck 8, St. Louis Park 0

Morin 3 goals, 1 assist

Section 2A Semis, 3/2
Breck 8, Orono 0

Traina 3 goals, 2 assists
 Russell 20 saves

Section 2A Finals, 3/4
Breck 5, Blake 1

Opperman and Fulton 1 goal,
 1 assist each

Photos / Tim Kolehmainen

BRECK



By Loren Nelson

When John Russell gets his well-padded arms and legs moving, he doesn't so much resemble a goaltender as he does a windmill on blustery day.

Pucks so rarely get through Russell's menagerie of perfectly angled body parts that Breck coach Les Larson can't recall the senior goaltender's last shaky outing.

"I've never seen the guy have a bad game," Larson said. "I've seen him in three years let in a couple of bad goals, but I think it was out of sheer boredom."

Breck, typically, doesn't play a lot of tight games. The defending state Class A champion Mustangs steamrolled through the regular season, posting a 23-2-0 record and losing just once to state high school competition. They breezed to the Tri-Metro Conference title with a 14-0 record to finish seven points ahead of rival Blake, then beat the Bears again, 5-1, to win the Section 2A championship.

Now comes the state tournament at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, a stage the Mustangs dominated last year. Just two seniors are gone from that powerhouse team.

"I think we are a deeper team and a better team," Larson said about his top-seeded Mustangs, who finished the season ranked No. 1 in the Hockey Hub's final Class A poll. "Statistically, we are a lot better."

"We're just going to do the same thing we did last year. I

honestly don't think we have had our best game yet. I'm hoping that is coming."

Russell allowed one goal in three playoff games and has a 1.43 goals-against average and .934 save percentage in 22 games overall. As great as those numbers are, check out Breck's offensive totals. The Mustangs were the state's highest scoring team in the regular season, averaging 7.40 goals per game. They beat their three sectional tournament opponents (St. Louis Park, Orono and Blake) by a combined score of 21-1.

Breck senior Michael Morin (33 goals, 28 assists) has committed to Colorado College, and linemate Tyson Fulton (34 goals, 50 assists) took a recruiting visit to Nebraska-Omaha after the Mustangs won the sectional crown. The scoring goes three lines deep and then some.

Senior Charlie Borer, a second-line wing, suffered a groin injury in Breck's opening playoff game. Borer's replacement, Nate Traina, one of four players sharing time on the third line, was moved up and responded by scoring a hat trick in Breck's 8-0 sectional semifinal win over Orono.

The story is pretty much the same on defense, where Larson rotates three interchangeable pairs.



Fulton



Morin



R. Borer



Russell

THE MUSTANGS WILL WIN THE STATE TITLE IF...



Loren Nelson: They play like they did last season. If all three of Breck's forward lines and all six of the Mustangs' defensemen are in top form as they were a year ago, it's doubtful any team in the field can match their depth.