

CLASS AA

DULUTH EAST GREYHOUNDS

Program info

Conference: Independent
 Section: 7AA
 Record: 24-3-1
 State trips: 1958, 60 Champs, 61, 64, 75, 91, 94, 95 Champs, 96, 97, 98 Champs, 2000, 03, 04, 05, 09
 Coach: Mike Randolph
 Assistants: Larry Trachsel, Craig Fellman, Terry Johnson, Andy Wheeler, Ryan Coole, Kyle Kolquist

Top players

Scorers	G	A	Pts
Max Tardy	32	25	57
Joe Nelson	10	18	28
Jayce Paulseth	8	18	26
Derek Forbort	6	19	25
Julius Tamasy	9	13	22

Goalies	W-L-T	GA	SV
Matt Cooper	24-2-1	1.33	.919

Full roster

#	Name	Gr	Pos
1	Joseph Jeanetta	10	G
6	Andy Welinski	10	D
8	Joe Arbour	12	D
9	Kenny Mellin	11	F
10	Kyle Lutzka	11	F
11	Tyler Mass	11	F
12	Jake Williams	12	D
13	Brent Olson	12	F
14	Tim Beddow	11	F
15	Derek Forbort	11	D
17	Jayce Paulseth	11	F
18	Joe Nelson	12	F
19	Sean Klun	12	F
21	Nolan Meyer	10	F
22	Jay Amato	11	D
23	Max Kotter	10	F
26	Julius Tamasy	12	F
27	Max Tardy	12	F
28	Alex McLean	12	D
30	Matt Cooper	12	G
34	Phil Johnson	10	F
37	Alex Holm	12	D
39	Joel Perlinger	10	G
43	Zac Schendel	10	F
44	Reed Armstrong	11	F

Road to the X

Section 7AA quarterfinals, 2/24
 Duluth East 10, Princeton 0

Section 7AA semifinals, 2/28
 Duluth East 3, Forest Lake 2 OT

Section 7AA finals, 3/5
 Duluth East 4, Elk River 1

Tardy and Forbort 1 goal, 2 assists

Duluth East has long been one of the state's most consistent programs in its long hockey history, earning a state tournament bid in every decade but the 1980s. But the 80s were a bit of a dry spell on the East end of the Port City.

Enter Mike Randolph. He took the reigns of the program at that time-- and the Greyhounds have stepped up their play from there, with 11 visits to St. Paul in his tenure, including a pair of state titles. Randolph has a dominant club that looks like it could add to the trophy case this winter.

East has won 13 straight games since an upset loss to Rochester Century in late January. And don't let the final scores fool you: their Section 7AA run was dominant. Both Forest Lake and Elk River went long stretches of the game without even producing an offensive chance, while the Greyhounds



Forbort



Williams

hammered away in their offensive zone.

East features arguably the best defensive corps in the state. Junior Derek Forbort has already committed to the University of North Dakota. He's poised beyond his years and has very good feet and agility for a player his size. It's easy to see why Forbort has played for so many USA Select teams.

But he's not alone. Seniors Joe Arbour, Jake Williams and Al McLean are college-caliber defenders in their own right. The quartet has shut down opposing offenses, often leaving senior goalie Matt Cooper ample time to watch



Photo by Tim Kolehmainen

Duluth East Mr. Hockey finalist Max Tardy (27) splits the Forest Lake defense in the Section 7AA semifinals.

the action on the far end of the ice.

Despite sporadic action, Cooper has posted some of the best



Cooper

numbers in the state among goalies, with a sterling 1.33 goals against and .919 save percentage. He also has eight shutouts, a testament to the 'Hounds tough defense.

This isn't a punchless defensive team, however.

Senior Max Tardy, a Mr. Hockey finalist and University of Minnesota-Duluth recruit, is a true two-way player. He's excellent with his defensive responsibilities, but is an even better scorer. Tardy seems to find holes in the defense better than nearly any player and has a gifted goal-scorer's touch.

Seniors Joe Nelson, Sean Klun and Julius Tamasy, juniors Kyle Lutzka, Jayce Paulseth and Kenny Mellin and sophomore Zac Schendel balance out the East front lines.



Tardy

As are most of Randolph's teams, the Greyhounds are a good mix of experienced seniors and talented underclassmen that should make plenty of noise at state as the No. 4 seed. ■

