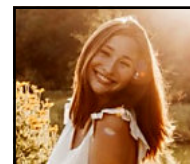


WINTER 190 TIME Boys Hockey

After COVID, what are you most excited about doing again?

"Having a normal high-school experience and seeing my friends more often."

-Jessie Joa ('21)



THE Manning legacy

Back in 2014, the Ponies' hockey team made it past sections and into the state tournament for the first time. On that team, Captain Jack Manning led the team to the tourney. The next trip was in 2017 where junior Captain Luke Manning led the same Ponies team to the tourney. Now fast forward to 2021 in the midst of Covid-19, with a modified season. The last Manning has received the Captain's patch and planned on leading the Ponies to their third ever state tournament, following in his brother's footsteps.

"I've learned the best way to lead in certain situations, and also I've gained a characteristic from being so competitive and my older brothers pushing me so hard when I was young," senior Captain Joe Manning said.

Manning has been playing hockey since he can remember because of his parents and brothers involvement in youth hockey programs. His brothers were talented and more importantly competitive, pushing young Joe to skate and play against them on the lake near their home. "I was scared he wasn't going to play hockey because of how much he complained about being at the hockey rink watching his brothers," his mother Chris Manning said.

Joe was always on the A and AA youth teams with many goals. He started as a forward, but after he matured as a player he moved back to defense, where he is able to control the game much better. As a sophomore he made the high school team and played varsity the second half of the season. "I had a lot to learn after moving up to varsity, but it was a good experience to see how fast and big the players are," Manning said.

As a junior, Manning realized he had the skill and leadership of both of his brothers. He played on the second line and scored in the section semifinal where the Ponies lost, ending the season. When senior year hit, Covid delayed the season, but Manning stayed positive so he could hit the ice running once it began. After one week into the season, Coach Greg Zanon gave the well deserved C to Manning, making all three Manning boys captains their senior year. "I mean it was always motivation to live up to their expectation," Manning said.

Unfortunately, the Ponies lost to Hill-Murray in the section semi-finals 3-2, so Joe was not able to lead the Ponies to the state tournament. The Ponies' biggest competitor has been Hill Murray which both Luke and Jack had to beat to go to the tourney. "I already wanted to go to state, but because they both went, it'd

kinda be a kick in the ass if I don't. I would be the one who didn't go," Manning said.

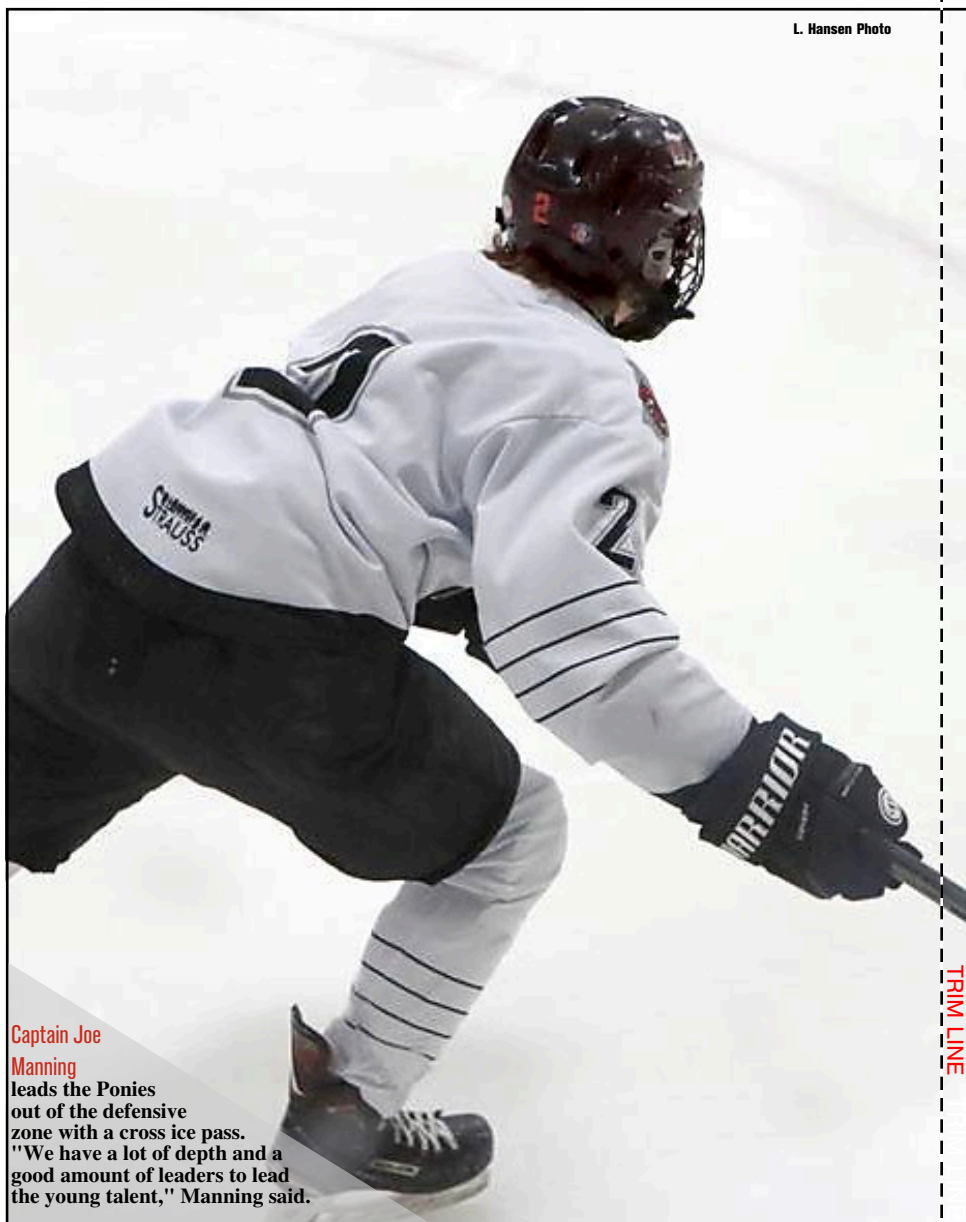
Since Covid, all three Mannings are living in the same house and can watch games which to Joe is "really cool." Jack graduated from the U and is now working a

corporate job from home. Luke played two years in the USHL in Iowa and is now playing his second season at Air Force academy, but next year is transferring to St. Thomas. Joe is looking to play in USHL next year, just like his brother. Bob and Chris Manning are both proud parents but keep the boys to a high standard if they want to accomplish their dreams. Each one of the Manning boys have created their own story, but it all starts with their feet in hockey.

By Alex Corbett

"I've gained a characteristic from being so competitive and my older brothers pushing me so hard when I was young."

-Joe Manning ('21)



L. Hansen Photo

Captain Joe Manning leads the Ponies out of the defensive zone with a cross ice pass. "We have a lot of depth and a good amount of leaders to lead the young talent," Manning said.

A season like no other How Covid impacted the team

The year 2020 put all athletes in a position they never thought they would be in before. Having to adhere to several Covid-19 regulations and sacrificing a normal season for the safety of others was a difficult task at hand. For the boys' hockey team, players had to look at empty seats in the rink for every game, while trying to maintain a positive attitude for the sake of themselves and their teammates. "I just miss the simple things like warm-up games and team bonding, which we can't do anymore," said senior Evan Murr. Fortunately, some fans were allowed at games, like close family members. Still, with the lack of a student section, spirits were not as high as they normally would be. The team tried to make the best out of the situation, however, and spent ample time with each other outside of practice and games.

Senior goaltender Nolan Lacosse watches the Ponies control the puck.

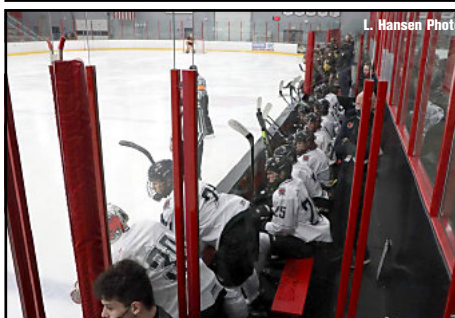
Henry Lawrence ('21), Aditya Mehta ('22) and Keegan O'Brien ('21) head to the face off while planning their play at the game against Forest Lake on March 9.

The Ponies on the bench watch the team in the defensive zone.

Pages by Alex Corbett & Tori Wyffels



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TRIM LINE

TRIM LINE



"Going back to orchestra concerts and traveling."
-Alec Rehtiene ('21)

After COVID, what are you most excited about doing again?



Alex Corbett ('21)

UP in the air

The Ponies ended the season with a record of 12-7-1 and never stopped battling until the end where they lost 2-3 to Hill-Murray.



Practice photos from Lily Lake Arena before COVID restrictions were lifted.

Junior Grant Miller, and senior Alex Corbett battle in the defensive zone against two Forest Lake players.

Senior Nolan Lacosse watches the puck move from behind the net into the corner with the support of his defense and center. "We have a good defensive zone, so I am able to trust the boys to have my back and pick up open players," Lacosse said.

Senior Keegan O'Brien tells the defense what the plan is for the faceoff so the Ponies can get a scoring chance. "I think I told the boys I've been beating this guy a lot, so be ready for the puck and you better put it in the net Bo," O'Brien said.

Boys Hockey Team: **Front:** Ethan Mosley, Morgan Spetz, Ethan Bernier, Brenden Bernier, Dan Roeske, Will DeGonda, Jackson Tweed, Ben Gerard, Jax McGlynn, Riley Skuza, Dominic Gutzman, Matthew Marah, Blake Rose, Jeremiah Swartz. **Middle:** Coach John Peterson, Coach Josh Aycock, Joe Manning, Alex Corbett, Henry Lawrence, Bo Dustin, Tommy Lindeberg, Jacob Chaves, Evan Murr, Braden Wenner, Aditya Mehta, Logan Langer, Gunner Arens, Kyle Einan, Head Coach Greg Zanon, Coach Chadwick Smith. **Back:** Carter Bies, Aidan Anderson, Owen Grau, Nolan Lacosse, Grant Miller, Keegan O'Brien, Ty Tuccitto, Johan Cernohous, Tomas Anderson, Garrett Burroughs, Ben Peterson.



A Look Back: Memorable moment in your hockey career?



"The most memorable moment wasn't just one time; it's every day putting in countless hours with the guys to chase our goals and make it to the state tournament."

-Keegan O'Brien ('21)



"The feeling of walking out to a packed arena at Aldrich for sections was the most memorable moment for me."

-Evan Murr ('21)



"I'd say the first game I got pulled up for varsity against Hill Murray in sophomore year."

-Gunner Arens ('21)



"Scoring the game-winning goal in OT against White Bear Lake."

-Alex Corbett ('21)