



**DREW ROUCHES
NVHS BOOSTER CLUB FEATURED ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
BOYS GOLF PROGRAM**

The NVHS Athletic Booster Club is proud to present the featured athlete of this week, golfer DREW ROUCHES.

Booster Club Reporter: *Was golf an early passion of yours?*

Drew: I've been playing golf since I was 5 years old and my dad surprised me with my first set of clubs. Ever since then I haven't stopped playing.

Booster Club Reporter: *And is it your only (sports) passion?*

Drew: Well... love to play football, hockey, and basketball with my friends, but not as competitively as golf. Other than playing sports with my friends I also enjoy watching them and attending various sporting events.

Booster Club Reporter: *Why golf?*

Drew: Golf is different than any other sport and that's why I love it so much. Each course you play is different and you play by yourself: your teammates can't hit your shots or physically help you like other sports.

Booster Club Reporter: *Was it tough to make it to the team?*

Drew: I didn't make the team my freshman year and that put a chip on my shoulder for the years to come. I was very nervous for my sophomore year, but after I made it I knew that I'd be back with the same guys the next season.

Booster Club Reporter: *I'm glad you didn't give up. What made you persevere?*

Drew: I knew I needed to work hard to make the team the following year. I think Coach Carbs knew that I would be back and ready the play next few years.

Booster Club Reporter: *What else have you learned from playing competitive golf?*

Drew: I've learned sportsmanship, honesty, camaraderie and everything in between. Golf has truly played a large part in shaping me into the man I am today. The coaches also have a huge role in shaping us athletes. Coach Carbs has been my coach for all 3 years I've played. He always tells us to not worry about the score we made on the last hole, but to look to the next hole as a fresh start. This helped our team avoid compounding mistakes and lead us to be as successful as we were.

Booster Club Reporter: *What would you say to someone who is considering joining a team in High School?*

Drew: I'd tell them to go for it! If you never try you'll always wonder what it could have been like if you made it. Even if you have previously tried out and didn't make it that doesn't matter either, because if you put in the work you'll get the desired results.

Booster Club Reporter: *What do you know now that would have helped you a lot had you known it when you were just starting?*

Drew: If I knew more about how golf is a mental game and not physical it would have helped me more. Golf tests the brain in every way because you have to make decisions regarding how to play your next shot; hitting the shot is only half of the equation.

Booster Club Reporter: *How does that relate to dealing with the fear of losing?*

Drew: I also just take a breather to calm myself down and realize what I need to do to win. I deal with the fear of losing by trying to make as few mistakes as possible and be as consistent as I can.

Booster Club Reporter: *What makes you a winner?*

Drew: I love to play golf and no one will ever be able to take that away from me regardless of my scores.

Booster Club Reporter: *What is your recipe for keeping up with good grades while practicing sports?*

Drew: I managed my time according to my schedule and I would immediately study for tests and do my homework right after practice instead of waiting to do late at night. I also went in to the resource centers to better understand what I learned in class. This helped earn me Academic All-Conference honors two years in a row. I am hoping to graduate with Cum Laude academic honors at the end of the year.

Booster Club Reporter: *Phenomenal. Congratulations! Where are you going to College? What do you intend to study?*

Drew: I want to attend either the University of Illinois or Indiana University and study Accounting. I hope to play on a club team in college, but I will not be being on a varsity team.

Booster Club Reporter: *What are you going to miss most when you graduate from HS?*

Drew: I'm definitely going to miss all of my friends, but especially my teammates. Being on a team with only 10 players makes you grow so close to them and the friendships we built will last a lifetime.