Catholic. Gentlemen. Leaders.

Sunday, November 29, 2020

# TWIBC SPORTS THIS WEEK IN BERGEN CATHOLIC SPORTS

### **Crusaders Defeat SPP Earn SFC Division Title**

**Nov 28 – Oradell, NJ** – What a great day for a state showdown. Many of the state's biggest names were on hand for the match-up between St. Peter's Prep and BC. The Marauders opened the game with two of its first three downs blemished by false starts, they found a completion on  $3^{rd}$  and twelve which was compounded by a targeting penalty against BC, converting that to a first down. That first down seemed to ignite a spark in the visitor as Prep continued on an eleven-play, 73-yard touchdown drive.

After a quick possession by BC, St. Peter's took over and were three and out as sensational soph, DJ Samuels, and Esquire Boyce combined on a sack.

It was time for BC's AB offense to start rolling. The combination of juniors Steve Angeli and Ryan Butler were too much for the Silver and Maroon offense to handle.

Angeli completed a 30-yard pass to Butler. That set the ball at 1<sup>st</sup> and Goal at the 10. Three plays later, Angeli extended the ball into the endzone, the PAT was good and the score was tied on the last play of the quarter, 7-7.



BC scored the only points of the second quarter as Angeli-to-Butler connection struck for a 65-yard touchdown pass play, straight down the middle of the Marauder D. The extra point was good and BC led 14-7.



BC's defense held Prep to just four, second-quarter first downs as it pitched a shutout in the second and third quarters. (Above Fabian France makes one of his three tackles on the day.) Jaeden Gould made his presence felt, recording two solid tackles on the day, before suffering an injury in the second quarter.



Boyce (40) led the Crusaders with 10 tackles and DJ Samuels (6) continued to do some special things, recording 3.5 TFLs and 2.5 sacks, taking the Prep back 17 total yards and John Fiore (10) recorded a solo tackle.

Right: Michael DiPasquale '23 ensuring BCTV is represented.





Above: Senior, Jack Syslo (64) centers the ball to Steve Angeli. Syslo actually blocks the player off-set a full man and a half to his left on this TD run by Angeli. His linemates, Frankie Zito (55), Quentin Lane (53), Johnny Parkes (73) and Dominick Brogna (56) along with tight ends Larue Linder, Danny Comeau did a tremendous job as the unit missed two of BC's finest linemen, Ty Malone and Pat Colicchio.

As the teams entered the final stanza, St. Peter's felt the season slipping away. Now was the time they needed to strike and strike they did. On the second play of the quarter, SPP converted down the sideline to the stands for a 37-yard touchdown pass. After two off-sides penalties on the PAT, the Marauders decided to go for two and used a trick play with the QB wandering to the right side and then a direct snap to a running back who handed it to a receiver on a reverse and then threw it to the QB for the conversion. Prep led 15-14 with 11:16 remaining in the game.



This is the stuff champions are made of. For my contemporaries, let's remember back to Super Bowl XXV. G-men vs. Bills (the first fall of Buffalo). Don't let the other team have the ball. As epic a drive as you will see in high school football, the Crusaders marched 19 plays to go 83 yards, taking over 9 minutes off the clock.

It was an extra serving of Butler and Angeli, punching the ball over the goal line with just 1:57 remaining in the contest. Butler's touchdown was his second (1 rushing, 1 receiving). He finished with 127 yards rushing and 98 yards receiving, leading BC in each category.



(NO! The referee is not jumping for joy that BC scored. At least I don't think so. He was just avoiding a SPP defender rolling on a loose ball after it had broken the plane.)

Angeli still had work to do. As he sprinted right on the PAT, his great speed and athleticism allowed him to extend the play long enough to allow Christian Carti to break off his route to a scramble adjustment. Angeli put the ball on the junior's hands and Carti wrestled the ball from a competing Marauder defender, good for the two-point conversion and a 22-15 lead.



Above, Carti goes airborne to outfight two Marauder attempting to steal his spoils. As for Angeli, he rushed for 63 yards and a TD on the day and passed for 133 and one touchdown and this 2-point conversion. Throw in four punts, and #1 was a busy man.

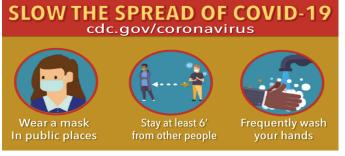
BC's defense finished off Prep in the remaining two minutes to close out a great win and outstanding season! Congratulations to Coach Campanile and his entire program for a great season.



## Legends of the Game



Nov 28 – Oradell, NJ – Here's one for you HS football fans. There are a lot of state championships in this group. Left to right, Fred Stengel, Tony Karcich, Rich Hansen and Greg Toal. It's hard to imagine you could find four men who have had a greater impact on Parochial High School football in New Jersey than these four men.



#### WE'RE NUMBER 1!

Nov 28 – Oradell, NJ – Very simply put, BC played the best. BC beat the best. Unquestionably the two strongest team in the state, aside from the Crusaders, were St. Joseph Regional and St. Peter's Prep. Include throughout the season Paramus Catholic, Pope John XXIII, DePaul Catholic and Don Bosco, there is no question, BC played the toughest schedule in the state.



2020 is a bizarre year. Right is wrong. Up is Down.



Out of School is In School and just keep on going. In one humble person's opinion, only the fake news would suggest trivial reasons the Crusaders are not NJ's top team. None are valid. This team overcame adversity. These players

**2020 Season Final Stats** 

proved they had the hearts of champions when they needed to, in the final quarter, down a score.

In my first official poll (and likely last) this is not what I do, there is ONE TEAM: Bergen Catholic. No others need apply.



#### **2020 FLASHBACK**

Nov 16 – Ramsey, NJ – Thanks to Mrs. Reid for sharing some photos of last week's JV Victory over vs. DBP 32-7. We published before we received them so let's take a moment to share now and remember a great BC win!



QB Jack Duffy avoiding the rush to find an open receiver.



Casey Logan running for paydirt.



Ready to swarm on the kickoff: Joe Marinaccio (57), Michael D'Amato (45), Joseph Barry (34), Chris Merril (42) and AJ Seeker (31).



Where it gets done! The line: Justin King 74, Michael Gentilello 60, Chris Murphy 70, Armend Urici 66 and Carmello Verlardo 88.



Joseph Barry breaking free.

#### **BOTW: HARLEQUIN DUCK**

Nov 29 – Hillsdale, NJ – While I did not see this duck in Hillsdale, I am looking forward to seeing them as early as next weekend. For me, Exit 63, LBI, Barnegat Light State Park is the right place. If you're interested in Sea Ducks,



there is a hike to the end of the walkway and out on the jetty. Harlequins, Long-tailed ducks, cormorants, loons, eiders, scoters and a variety of sandpipers can generally be found. Interested in a bird hike? E-mail jhaemmerle@bergencatholic.org SUBJ: Bird Adventure