

# TWIBC SPORTS

## THIS WEEK IN BERGEN CATHOLIC SPORTS

### Hockey Season Opens as COVID Continues to Wreak Havoc on the Schedule

**January 18 – Sewell, NJ –** After scheduling a scrimmage, cancelled due to Covid; rescheduling with another opponent, cancelled due to Covid; losing the season opener, cancelled due to Covid; the Crusaders finally had an opportunity to open their season in a Gordon Conference Game.

The opener demanded a long bus ride to Sewell and the Hollydell Arena where a motivated Gloucester Catholic team was awaiting the Crusaders. The Rams took an early advantage, scoring just 2:11 into the young season and putting BC down 1-0.

After a tightly contested remainder of the period, Coach Keough hoped his team would be able to get the first score of the second period to even the score. Once again, the Rams scored early, however, netting their second goal just 3:30 into the period and putting BC in a 2-0 hole.

Just 1:36 later, BC would score its first goal of the season, a power-play goal fired by Antonio Arcaroli '22 on a pass from Mick Thompson '22 and just like that, BC cut the Ram lead in half, and was in striking range. Sadly, that lead was extended as a Gloucester Catholic attacker was able to sneak a puck past sophomore goal keeper, Ryan Henry '23, who played a very solid game in his

varsity debut. Henry stopped .921 of the shots faced in 44:20 minutes of play, holding the Rams scoreless throughout the third period.

The Crusaders out-shot their opponents 40-35, but were unable to beat the Rams keeper until just 1:22 remained in the game. It was at that point that super-soph, Aram Minnetian '23, fired a shot to give BC its second power-play goal. Thompson and Bryceon Lago '23 each recorded assists on the score and the Crusaders hoped for a fantastic finish.

**SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**  
cdc.gov/coronavirus



Wear a mask  
In public places



Stay at least 6'  
from other people



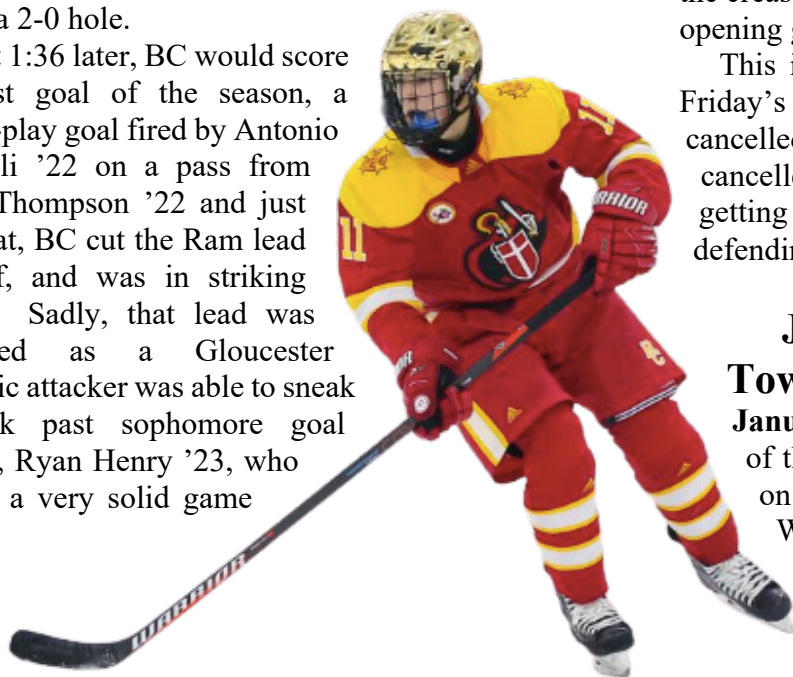
Frequently wash  
your hands

BC put extreme pressure on the Rams' net, in the waning seconds as a flurry of activity happened on the crease, but it was not enough and BC dropped its opening game 3-2.

This is a resilient group of players and despite Friday's rescheduled game with Don Bosco Prep, cancelled due to Covid; and their next game, cancelled due to Covid; they look forward to getting back on the ice and making a run at defending their Bergen County title.

### JV Hockey Defeats Wayne Township Combined Schools 11-1

**January 23 – Wayne, NJ –** The 2021 Version of the Junior Varsity Hockey Team started off on in dominant fashion, defeating a combined Wayne Hills-Wayne Valley High School Team by a score of 11-1.



*Sophomore Aram Minnetian notched his first goal of the season on Monday.*

## UPCOMING SCHEDULE...

Please refer to [www.bergencatholic.org](http://www.bergencatholic.org) for all schedules of winter sports. The sports that are currently competing are:

**BASKETBALL BOWLING ICE HOCKEY SKIING**

Other traditional winter sports (WRESTLING and SWIMMING and INDOOR TRACK) are not competing during this "WINTER 1 SEASON."

As you can imagine, schedules can change on a daily and even minute-to-minute basis. Before going to a game, check the webpage for the specific team as it will be the most current and accurate source for whether a game is being played or delayed.

## BOTW: RARE BIRDS AROUND BERGEN COUNTY and NJ IN JANUARY

**January 25 - Teaneck, NJ** - In some ways, this has been an unprecedented month of birding in Bergen County and throughout NJ. Three species in particular have made visits to our vicinity and have graced us with their presence for over a week or more. Here are some highlights.

**TOWNSEND'S WARBLER** - This tiny bird, weighing a mere 9 grams may be quite common if you are visiting Mt. Rainier in the state of Washington where it is a year-long resident. But to find one in New Jersey is something special. During the winter break and beyond I made no less than three trips to Brigantine, NJ to find one spotted there. Unfortunately, no bird. Then, about a week later, a Townsends was spotted at Thomas Jefferson Middle School in Teaneck, where it has been residing for about 8 days. This remarkable bird is the first of its species ever recorded in Bergen County.

**PINK-FOOTED GOOSE** - On one of my treks to Brig, while we hoped to see the Townsends, someone commented we were due in NJ to see a Pink-footed Goose. These geese are very rare migrants from northern Europe, Iceland, Greenland and northeastern Canada. Ten minutes later, a rare bird alert came across that two were spotted at Overpeck Golf Course, not more than a half-mile from where the Townsends was spotted. The Pink-footed goose has been there since just before the New Year.

**SNOWY OWL** - Always a pleasure to see, this beauty was spotted at Brigantine (Edwin Forsythe NWR) while I was failing at my search for the original Townsend's Warbler.

**ICELAND GULL** - This bird is a very rare gull visiting from the Arctic. I saw him across from the Little Red Lighthouse below the Great Gray Bridge. My contemporaries may very well be familiar with this childhood book.

**GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE** - Finding these geese, GWFG and PFG can be like finding a needle in a haystack, especially when they are among 500-1000 Canada Geese. This rarity can still be found at Overpeck Park mixed in with the flock.

**BLACK HEADED GULL** - As luck would have it, I pulled up in a parking space at the Shark River Inlet to find this bird. To tell the truth, it was really Br. Fagan who found it. I was looking for loons and he asked, did I check the gulls in front of us? It was pretty funny. I would have missed it. Meanwhile, we started taking pictures and before long, there were a dozen photographers snapping away at this bird.

Clockwork from the right:

1. Snowy Owl
2. Pink-footed Geese among Canada Geese
3. Townsend's Warbler
4. Black-headed Gull
5. Greater White-fronted Goose (among CANG)
6. Iceland Gull with GWB in background.



**IF YOU HAVE ANY  
BIRDS YOU WOULD  
LIKE TO SHARE OR  
WOULD LIKE TO JOIN  
IN A BIRDING  
ADVENTURE, LET US  
KNOW!**

[jhaemmerle@bergencatholic.org](mailto:jhaemmerle@bergencatholic.org)