Volume 2, Issue 16

Sunday, December 22, 2019

THE BERGEN CATHOLIC SPORTS

WINTER SPORTS IN FULL SWING

God – Family – Study – Athletics & Arts – The Brotherhood!

Bowlers Strike Down SJR 7-0

December 16 – Hackensack, NJ – The Crusaders had another solid victory as bowlers are beginning to find their groove. Over 2000 pins are a testament to that as BC defeated the Green Knights in all three games and total pins 2164-2007. Marvelous Michael Bellifemini rolled a series high 673 (161 points higher than his high series just a week ago). His 265 led all bowlers on Wednesday. John DelJuidice rolled a 516 followed by Tyler Butkera (491) and Tommy Muir (484).

JV Bowling on a Roll!

December 16 – Hackensack, NJ – The JV Bowlers remain undefeated, taking all 5 points from SJR on Monday. Dan Chung led BC with a 507 series, 214 high game. Liam Chin rolled a 405 series, Brady Menapace (356) and Paul Brignola (336). BC won over all pins 1604-1466.

Bears Bowl Over Bergen

December 18 – Hackensack, NJ – The Bergenfield Bears caught the Crusaders hibernating on Wednesday. Michael Bellifemini, as usual, rolled a series high 643 and rolled the high game of the afternoon, 242. BC fell however 2135-1858. The remaining members of BC's fab four rolled: Tyler Butkera (430), Tommy Muir (410) and Dan Chung (375).

JV Bowlers Drop a Tight One.

December 18 – Hackensack, NJ – The JV Bowling team dropped its first match of the 2019-20 season, falling to Bergenfield 3-2. Paul Brignola rolled a series high 449 while Sean McEnery, Brady Menapace, Liam Chin and Anthony Liggio all bowled strong for BC.

Senior Swimmers Steal the Show; BC Now 4-0

December 18 – Ridgewood, NJ – The BC Boys are now 4-0 after defeating Wayne Hills 117-53 and winning 10 of 11 events. It was especially great on senior night to have senior teams win all of the relay events.

200 Medley Relay - The senior team of Ian Liu, Tim Anderson, Julian Chun, and Ben Rose won the race with Gavin Perez (FR), Andrew Mazzacano (SO), Jaden Lee (FR), and Matt Semelsberger (FR) taking 3rd.

200 Freestyle - BC took 1st and 2nd with Chris LaBianco (SR) and Christian Skaff (SO)

200 IM - It was a BC sweep with Jaden Lee (FR), Matt Semelsberger (FR), and Ben Vester (FR) taking 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

50 Freestyle - Alex Vester (JR) took 2nd place.

100 Butterfly - Tom Haemmerle (JR) and Sam Hughes (JR) took 1st and 2nd.

100 Freestyle - Alex Rose (SO) and Chris LaBianco (SR) took 1st and 2nd.

500 Freestyle - Our BC boys swept again with Alex Vester (JR), Andrew Mazzacano (SO), and Gavin Perez (FR) taking 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

200 Freestyle Relay - The senior team of Julian Chun, Ian Liu, Tim Anderson, and Ben Rose won the event with Tyler Perrino (FR), Logan Andrade (SO), Ben Collins (SR), and John Nalbanadian (FR) taking 3rd.

100 Backstroke - Julian Chun (SR), and Tim Anderson (SR) took 1st and 2nd place.

100 Breaststroke - Sam Hughes took 1st place.

(continued)

400 Freestyle Relay - The senior team of Tim Anderson, Chris LaBianco, Ben Rose, and Julian Chun won the race with Christian Skaff (SO), Jaden Lee (FR), Tom Haemmerle (JR), and Alex Rose (SO) taking 2nd.

Thanks to all the parents who attended and especially those who volunteered to help time! And big thanks to all the Juniors and Junior parents who helped to organize such a great evening!

Wrestling Opens Season with 76-6 Victory Over Bergenfield

December 19 – Oradell, NJ – The Crusader Wrestling program opened with a win that allowed them to get some freshmen and younger wrestlers experience before their bus ride to Delaware for the Beast of the East this weekend.

Beast of the East Seedings

December 20 – Newark, DE - Entering the tournament, eight Crusader wrestlers were seeded:

106 pounds – 5 – Aidan Wallace
113 pounds – 4 – Joe Cangro
120 pounds – 1 – Nick Kayal
126 pounds – 2 – Robert Howard
132 pounds – 3 – Dylan Cedeno
145 pounds – 8 – Joe Zargo
152 pounds – 6 – Alex Strashinsky
170 pounds – 13 – Justin Onello

Ghostbusters!

Crusader Hoops Handles Eastside 89-43

December 20 – Paterson, NJ – The fastest show on two feet got up and down the court on Friday night as BC visited Paterson Eastside and earned a convincing victory. While BC jumped out to a strong 28-18 lead after the first quarter, the Crusaders wore out the Ghosts in the second, dominating them on defense and scoring big to go in 54-25 at the half.

From there, while maintenance was all that was needed, the up-tempo style of BC increased the lead by 7 in the third and 9 in the fourth.

Guard, Will Richardson lead all scorers with 25 points and 5 three-point shots. Notre Dame-bound senior, Matt Zona dominated inside and out, knocking down a pair of threes, adding 5 free throws as he contributed 21 points. Julian Brown scored 19 points, Raejon Figures added 14 and Jahsiem Davis, Christian Ross pitched in four points and Nick Caggiano added a basket to round out all scorers.

Crusader Swimmers Defeat Wayne Valley 103-67

Our boys ended the year with a perfect record of 5-0 by defeating Wayne Valley HS in convincing fashion 103-67 and winning 10 of 11 events.

(continued)

200 Medley Relay - Tim Anderson (SR), Jaden Lee (FR), Ben Vester (FR), and Alex Vester (JR) took 3rd place.

200 Freestyle - Andrew Mazzacano (SO) and Jaden Lee (FR) took 1st and 2nd place.

200 IM - Alex Rose (SO) took 1st place.

50 Freestyle - Sam Hughes (SR) took 1st place.

100 Butterfly - BC went 1-2 with Ben Rose (SR) and Gavin Perez (FR)

100 Freestyle - Alex Vester (JR) and Tyler Perrino (FR) took 1st and 2nd.

500 Freestyle - Matt Semelsberger (FR) and Chris LaBianco (SR) took 1st and 2nd place.

200 Freestyle Relay - BC boys took 1st and 2nd place with the team of Alex Rose (SO), Chris LaBianco (SR), Gavin Perez (FR), and Tim Anderson (SR) and the team of Logan Andrade (SO), John Nalbanadian (FR), James Deegan (JR), and Ben Collins (SR).

100 Backstroke - Sam Hughes (SR) and Tom Haemmerle (JR) took 1st and 2nd place.

100 Breaststroke - Tim Anderson (SR) took 1st place with Jaden Lee (FR) taking 3rd.

400 Freestyle Relay - Gavin Perez (FR), Tom Haemmerle (JR), Sam Hughes (SR), and Ben Rose (SR) took first place with Alex Vester (JR), Alex Rose (SO), Christian Skaff (SO), and Alex Mazzacano (FR) taking 2nd.

Thanks to all the parents who attended and especially those who volunteered to help time!

Frosh Hoopsters Open with Big Win

December 20 – Paterson, NJ – The Crusader freshman basketball team took down the young Ghosts from Paterson Eastside 84-47 on Friday night.

Beast Progress

December 21 – Newark, DE – After a day of wrestling, BC advanced six wrestlers into the quarterfinals of the Beast of the East at the University of Delaware.

Joe Cangro (113), Nick Kayal (120), Robert Howard (126), Dylan Cedeno (132), Joe Zargo (145) and Alex Strashinsky were undefeated after one day.

Wrestling back and still alive are Aidan Wallace (106), Nate Camiscioli (160), Justin Onello (170), Jack Patti (182), John Fiore (195) and Nate Lewis (220).

I Was Having a Really Good Morning…

December 21 – Hillsdale, NJ – I was reading a little on line and surfing Facebook and one of our coaches, Ed VanCuren, posted a terrific TedTalk about the need for Football in high school athletics. While the video is driven by a football theme, there are quite a number of fruits that can be gleaned from high school athletics and a number of his points are applicable to a number of different things. The link to the video is below:

WHY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL IS SO IMPORTANT

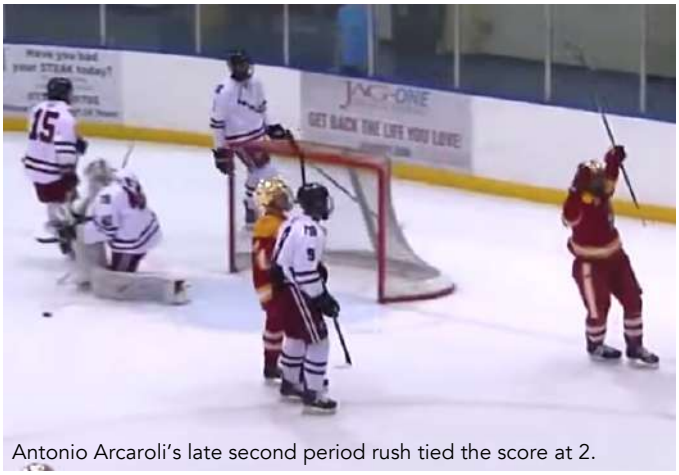
https://bit.ly/34KMvJZ

Top-Ranked Crusaders Slip Up

December 19 – Morristown, NJ – The Varsity Hockey Team slipped for the first time this year, dropping a 5-2 decision to Morristown Beard School. The consistent level of play challenges even New Jersey's #1 ranked team, and the young mountain men ("Once you climb the mountain, you are the mountain." – Bill Belichick) learned they need to be emotionally focused and ready to play as every opponent is the most dangerous one.

Aram Minnetian's wrist shot to open BC's scoring

Aram Minnetian opened the Crusader scoring with 7:15 remaining in the first on what is becoming one of the most lethal power play teams in the state of NJ. Devon Kelly and Tommy Olson assisted. That lead would last for the next 15 minutes and 8 seconds when the Crimson would tie the score. MBS grabbed a second-period lead with 4:42 remaining before Antonio Arcaroli (assisted by Nicholas Chiurazzi and Jake Antonucci) knotted the score at 2 with just 13 seconds remaining in the period.



Antonio Arcaroli's late second period rush tied the score at 2.

The third period was all in favor of the home team, however as Mo-Beard poured in three unanswered goals, rolling to a 5-2 victory and giving BC its first setback of the season.

Hockey Responds with Quality Win Over Summit 3-1

December 20 – Hackensack, NJ – Nick Chiurazzi got the Crusaders going in a tightly contested first period at the Ice House on Friday night. His goal at 8:48 off an assist from Nick Stoebling was all of the scoring that took place in the first fifteen minutes.

Nick Chiurazzi started the scoring off for BC

Aram Minnetian continued his assault on the opposing goals, delivering BC's second goal with 7:51 remaining in the second period and Chiurazzi broke away, finishing a 1v0 vs. the goalie, providing BC with a short-handed goal at the 1:35 mark in the second period, his second goal of the game.

Summit struck back quickly, scoring a power play goal at 1:14 remaining in the second, but that would be the end of scoring for the evening as Brendan McCaskey turned away 25 shots on goal for a .960 save percentage on the evening. Stoebling and Jack Antonucci finished with 2 assists apiece. The defense was strong with Brenden Kelly, Devon Kelly, among others playing strong.

Brendan McCaskey had another strong outing in the net for the Crusaders.

The big hit of the night had to go to Minnetian, though, whose hip check into the boards packed some legitimate force and volume. The Crusaders are 6-1 going into the big game with Don Bosco Prep on Monday night.

Swimmers Qualify for NJ MOC, Sectionals and National Events

December 22 – Paramus, NJ – BC swimming has been off to a fast team start locally but also recently had several swimmers qualify for individual state, sectional and national championship events with new best times. In December, Tim Anderson, Julian Chun, Thomas Haemmerle, Sam Hughes, Alex Rose, and Ben Rose qualified for the NJ High School State Meet of Champs (MOC) which will be held on February 29 and March 1. With 6 swimmers already qualifying and several others on the cusp, BC is closing in on matching a school record of 7 different swimmers competing at the NJ MOC in individual events.

Going beyond state level competitions, sophomore Andrew Mazzacano recently qualified for the 2020 USA Swimming Sectional Championships to be held later this spring with a new best time in the 200-yard breast stroke. Andrew was swimming at MIT last weekend for the Condors Swim Club while achieving these new time standards.

Junior Thomas Haemmerle qualified for the YMCA National Championships to be held in Greensboro, North Carolina in April with a new best time in the 500-yard freestyle event while swimming at the Nassau Aquatic center last weekend.

Finally, Senior captain Julian Chun improved upon his previous times in both the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke events and qualified for USA Swimming Jr. National Championships which are held at Georgia Tech. Julian also achieved at Futures cut in the 200 IM while swimming for Scarlet Aquatics at Rutgers University last weekend.

Crusaders Wrestle Tough at Beast

December 22 – Newark, DE – The Crusaders placed fourth as a team behind Blair Academy (NJ), Brecksville (PA) and Malvern Prep (PA). Second through fourth places were separated by just a few points and BC's finish was just 2 points out of third place.

Six Crusaders placed at the two-day event including:

113 Joe Cangro 4th
120 Nick Kayal 5th
126 Robert Howard 6th
132 Dylan Cedeno 3rd
145 Joseph Zargo 7th
152 Alex Strashinsky 6th

Coach, Dom Santoli was "a paragon of virtue and an indispensable resource of energy and knowledge," according to an appreciative Coach Bell whose team performed very well.

Zona's Double-Double Keys Win Over St. Thomas Aquinas

December 22 – Elizabeth, NJ – Senior forward, Matt Zona scored 16 and collected 15 rebounds as BC overcame a 37-36 deficit and pulled away to grab an 81-70 victory from St. Thomas Aquinas (NJ) on Sunday evening.

Will Richardson once again led all scorers with 29 points and Julian Brown tore it up with 23 of his own. Jahsiem Davis and Raejon Figures contributed a pair of field goals for 5 points apiece and Elijah Flournoy knocked down a trey for the Crusaders. C Jackson played strong on the boards, grabbing four rebounds and providing two assists as BC improved to 2-0.

BB photos can be purchased at https://bit.ly/2EMF6PD.

Volume 2, Issue 16 Sunday, December 22, 2019

The Sun
NEW YORK

September 21, 1897 – New York, NY – We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor—
I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?
Virginia O'Hanlon
115 West Ninety Fifth Street

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence.

We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

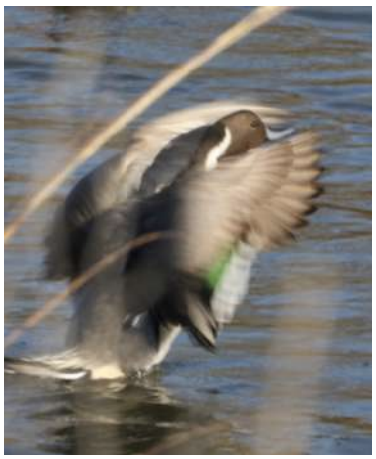
No Santa Claus! Thank God! He lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

BOTW: Northern Pintail

December 22 – Lyndhurst, NJ – This week's bird of the week is the Northern Pintail, an attractive dabbling duck that frequents ponds in this area during the winter months (as water in its liquid state is available).

Dabbling ducks are the kind that tilt over to feed on vegetation below the surface of the water. This is how they differ from diving or sea ducks that can pursue prey below the surface after diving.

Northern pintails, as their name would suggest, have a pin-shaped tail that is especially conspicuous when they are upside dabbling down in the water for food, and the tail is pointed skyward. They are slightly smaller than a mallard and have a beautiful chestnut brown head, light grey-blue bill and white stripe which works up the backside of its neck into its head.



Bergen Catholic Sports Next Week at a Glance

Day/Date	Time	Sport	Opponent	Location
Monday, December 23	6:30 PM	Var Hockey	Don Bosco Prep	Ice Vault

Merry Christmas!

Friday, December 27	4:00 PM	Var Basketball	Impact Christian (FL)	Charlotte, NC
Saturday, December 28	TBA	Var Basketball	TBA	Charlotte, NC
Saturday, December 28	1:15 PM	JV Hockey	St. Joseph Metuchen	Ice Vault
Sunday, December 29	5:00 PM	Indoor Track	NJCTC Relays	168 St. Armory, NYC
Monday, December 30	TBA	Var Basketball	TBA	Charlotte, NC
Tuesday, December 31	1:00 PM	JV Hockey	Monsignor Farrell	Ice Vault
Wednesday, January 1	**TBA**	**Var Basketball**	**St. Raymond's**	**Hoehl Gymnasium**
Friday, January 3	4:30 PM	Var Indoor Track	Zaccone Invitational	FDU
Friday, January 3	4:30 PM	Fr/So Indoor Track	Zaccone Invitational	FDU
Friday, January 3	4:00 PM	JV Hockey	Seton Hall Prep	Floyd Hall
Friday, January 3	4:00 PM	Fr Basketball	Fair Lawn HS	Fair Lawn HS
Friday, January 3	5:30 PM	JV Basketball	Fair Lawn HS	Fair Lawn HS
Friday, January 3	7:00 PM	Var Basketball	Fair Lawn HS	Fair Lawn HS
Friday, January 3	TBA	Var Wrestling	Doc Buchanan Tourn	Clovis HS (CA)
Saturday, January 4	TBA	Var Wrestling	Doc Buchanan Tourn	Clovis HS (CA)
Saturday, January 4	9:30 AM	Var Indoor Track	Garfield Shot/High Jump	Garfield HS
Saturday, January 4	9:30 AM	Fr/So Indoor Track	Garfield Shot/High Jump	Garfield HS
Saturday, January 4	9:00 AM	Var Indoor Track.	Hispanic Games	168 St. Armory, NYC
Saturday, January 4	7:15 PM	Var Basketball	Hudson Catholic	Ramapo College

Bergen Catholic Holiday FR/JV Hoops Tournament

Friday Dec 27
1:30pm **Bergen Catholic** v Franklin (Freshmen)
3:00pm **Bergen Catholic** v Franklin (JV)
4:30pm **Paramus Catholic** v Ramapo (Freshmen)
6:00pm **Paramus Catholic** v Ramapo (JV)

Saturday Dec 28
10:00am **Stepinac** vs w/o PC/Ramapo (Freshmen)
11:30am **Stepinac** vs w/o PC/Ramapo (JV)
1:00pm **Bergenfield** vs w/o BC/Franklin (JV)
2:30pm **St. Peter's Prep** vs w/o BC/Franklin (Fr)
4:00pm Freshmen 4th Place Game
5:30pm JV 4th Place Game

Monday Dec 30
1:30pm Freshmen 3rd Place Game
3:00pm JV 3rd Place Game
4:30pm Freshmen Championship Game
6:00pm JV Championship Game

Prayer of Thanks for Blessed Edmund Rice

O God, we thank you for the life of **Edmund Rice**. He opened his heart to Christ present in those oppressed by poverty and injustice. May we follow his example of faith and generosity. Grant us the courage and compassion of **Edmund** as we seek to live lives of love and service.