

# Island Sports

## Winter sports teams wrap-up seasons

By **Stephanie Heelan Cotsonas**  
**Fourth grade CAL**

The St. Mark fourth grade Catholic Athletic League (CAL) team played Our Lady of Mercy of East Greenwich in the quarterfinals and lost 19-16. Prior to that game, they had advanced to the Final Four by defeating St. Theresa, 17-8, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel of Bristol by a score of 12-11. The crowd was on the edge of their seats as St. Mark had a one-point lead over OLMC with nine seconds on the clock. According to Coach Chris Varrecchione, "The game was on their home court and what made that win extra sweet was that we had lost to that same OLMC team twice during the regular season."

With only three losses during the regular season, Varrecchione was proud of his team's efforts. "This St. Mark's team really improved tremendously over the course of the season. We didn't have any one dominant player on our team, so we really had to work together as a team. Our defense was exceptional during the playoffs and we really shut down the opposition when we had to," he said. Team mem-

bers included Stephen Cirella, Robert Haberland, Jacob Jarry, Finn O'Farrell, Jay Patel, Teddy Roberts, Noah Simmons, Jordan Smith, Giancarlo Varrecchione, and Liam Vetter.

**Seventh and Eighth grade CAL**

The seventh and eighth grade boys' team had a successful season, placing first in their division and they were the number one seed going into the State tournament with a 10-1 record. St. Mark lost in the semifinals to St. Theresa's, 47-41, after they had beaten them by one point at the buzzer during the regular season. Anthony Will had 13 points, Owen Heath had 11 points, Christian Ellerbe had 6 points, Joe Real 4 points, and Danny Bailey, Kevin McDermott, and Dan Harpool all contributed 2 points. There was great defense and rebounding by Jacob Morris, Harpool, James Chamberlain and Adam Southworth according to Coach Mary Heath.

**High School CAL**

In an exciting game, the high school CAL team wrapped up their season with a quarterfinal loss to eventual state champions Western Cranston's Holy Apos-

ties by a score of 85-82.

According to Coach Chris Crawford, notable performances were had by Liam O'Farrell, Chris Crawford, Chris Wright and Tommy Stacom, who Crawford noted had his best overall game of the year.

**North Kingstown High School Boys' Basketball**

The boys' basketball program had a stellar year overall, with all teams playing in the post-season. The Varsity team had a great season and won their division (I South) and they lost in the state semi-finals to Woonsocket, 59-52, after beating Exeter-West Greenwich in the quarterfinals. The JV team also had a great season that started slow but picked up momentum as the year progressed. They ultimately lost in the state finals to Mt. Pleasant, 45-42. The freshman team had a successful year capped by a win against arch rival and eventual state champion, Bishop Hendricken which was their only loss of the season. The freshmen lost in the state quarterfinals to Tolman.

**North Kingstown High School Competition Cheerleading**



The fourth grade Catholic Athletic League team from St. Mark Church had two exciting wins to advance to the quarterfinals, where they lost a close game to Our Lady of Mercy of East Greenwich.  
 Photo courtesy of Susan Baccari

In the large school division, North placed second at the state meet to North Providence.

**North Kingstown High School Gymnastics**

After a second place finish at the state meet, the North squad placed fifth at New England's.

**North Kingstown High School Boys' Indoor Track**

At the New England Cham-

pionship, the RI state champion 4x400-meter relay team broke their own school record they set at the state meet two weeks prior. The North relay team placed seventh with a time of 3:30.05 and included islanders Nate Wigton, Rory Farrell, Kevin Alexander and Andrew Buresh.

Wigton also placed 11th in the 600-meters at New England's.

## An introduction to the North Kingstown High School coaches

By **Stephanie Heelan Cotsonas**

Spring is in the air and the North Kingstown spring sports season is underway. With 10 teams currently going through tryouts and preseason practice, an introduction to the coaches was in order. See next week's Jamestown Press for the remaining five head coaches.

Kevin Gormley is entering his 11th season as a baseball coach at North Kingstown High School. He was the assistant coach for the first five years, and has been the head coach since 2003. Gormley has also been the boys' assistant basketball coach for 10 years. He

received his degree in finance from the University of Connecticut and he earned a master's in secondary education from Johnson & Wales University. Gormley speaks highly of his assistant coaches and says they all work very well together. "Peter (Clays) and Anthony (Ucci) are like my co-head coaches; we act and make decisions as a team." Gormley added that the JV coaches run a terrific feeder program and they do an excellent job of getting the younger players ready to play on the varsity level. Gormley is a teacher in the careers department at the high school. Some of the

courses he teaches include sports marketing, college business principles, personal finance, investments and technology readiness. According to Gormley, he is known for enforcing "Coach G time" with his athletes. "You need to show up 15 minutes before you are supposed to," he said. His favorite motto is "Failure to prepare is preparing for failure."

Domenic Marcone is in his 13th season as head golf coach. He has coached in and outside the Warwick school department, including football at Toll Gate, Pilgrim, and Bishop Hendricken. Marcone is currently the assistant football

coach at La Salle, where his son is the head coach. He has also coached freshmen baseball and girls' volleyball at Toll Gate. Marcone attended St. Pius in Providence and graduated from LaSalle Academy in 1967. He graduated from Wesleyan College in Owensboro, Ky. Marcone is presently the Athletic Director at Pilgrim High

School and has been teaching in the Warwick school department since 1972. He said that his players know him for his fairness and consistency. His favorite quote is "To be on time is to be late."

Charlie Breagy has been in coaching for 20 years and has

See "Coaches" on next page

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