

Island Sports

Middle and high school winter teams wrap season

By Stephanie Heelan Cotsonas

Boys' Indoor Track

The North Kingstown High School boys' indoor track team wrapped up their season by placing seventh in the state meet on Sunday. Islander and junior Mike Spahr placed third in the 55 meter hurdles with a time of 8.05 seconds. Head Coach Charlie Breagy said, "Mike was great and ran his fastest race ever."

In the Division Championships, held on Feb. 7, Spahr won the 45-meter hurdles and placed fourth in the high jump. Islander Jacob Wigton placed ninth in the 3000-meter run. Islander and senior Eric Von Hohenleiten placed tenth in the weight throw. North placed third in the division.

In the Class A Championships on Feb. 12 and 13, Von Hohenleiten placed tenth in the weight throw and Wigton placed tenth in the

3000-meters. Spahr placed third in the 45-meter hurdles and islander Jimmy Stewart placed fifth in the 1000-meter run. Stewart was also part of the second place 4x880-yard relay with Micheal O'Keefe, Brian Pugh, and Evan Bolton. North placed second to Hendricken in the Class A meet.

Islander Alex Sakovits, who competed for Bishop Hendricken, placed second in the 600-meters with a time of 1:25.18 and he also placed second in the event at the Class A meet.

Wrestling

The NKHS wrestling teams wrapped their seasons on Feb 14. Head Coach Howie Hague was pleased with North's second place finish at the JV tournament. "We didn't have quite enough depth to compete with Cranston West, but were very happy with our overall performance." (Islanders) A.J. Gebara and Clayton Caswell each

won a match for us, which scored some team points. Since we only lost the title by three points, every point was crucial so it was an entire team effort even though neither wrestler earned a medal," Hague said.

Boys' and girls' swimming

Both the North Kingstown High School boys' and girls' swim teams placed seventh and concluded their seasons at the state meet held Feb. 14 and 15 at URI. Islander and senior Victor Lambert was part of the fourth place 200-yard medley relay team and the seventh place 400-yard freestyle relay team along with Ben Evangelista, Garrett Graham and Trevor Kenyon. The fourth place finish was less than .4 seconds behind Bishop Hendricken. Lambert also took ninth place in the 200-yard freestyle (1:54.32) and sixth place in the 100-yard backstroke (59.67).

Islander Jess Rudman was part of the second place 200-yard medley relay and the third place 400-yard freestyle relay along with Kate Perrault, Emma Jackson and Olympian Liz Beisel. Rudman also took eighth place in the 100-yard breaststroke (1:14.62) and 14th place in the 200-yard individual medley (2:29.82). Islanders and seniors Kendra Davis and Emmy Lutes were part of the 16th place 200-yard freestyle relay team along with Karina Carlson and Hayley Bezubka.

Middle school basketball

The Jamestown Middle School basketball teams wrapped up their seasons late last month with losses in the playoffs.

The boys' team made the state playoffs with a 7-7 record for the first time since 2003 according to Head Coach Eric Bush. Jamestown



Jamestown Mike Spahr finished third in the 55-meter hurdles at Sunday's Rhode Island State track meet with a time of 8.05 seconds. Spahr will head to Boston to compete in the New England Championships.

Photo by Adrienne Downing

played North Cumberland Middle School (10-4) of the Northern Division. According to Bush, Jamestown was down early, 11-1, then "slowly crawled back with some great defense and timely shooting." With three minutes left in the game, Jamestown had cut the lead to six, but North Cumberland made all of their foul shots to win the game, 56-42.

In the playoff game, James Chamberlain had 26 points and Alex Burke and Drew McIntyre played really well. Final score was 56-44.

Bush was pleased with how his team played and said, "The kids played well and other than the first two minutes played right with them (North Cumberland)."

The boys qualified for the playoffs after a big upset, 39-32, against Thompson Middle School on Jan. 15. Bush said they played

a great game at home against Thompson in front of a big crowd and Matt Rafanelli contributed a huge 18 points. Thompson had been averaging about 65 points per game according to Bush and Jamestown stepped up their defense and slowed them down. "I told them not to make it a track meet because we would not win against them. The kids responded and played their all around best that day," Bush said. The boys went 4-3 in the second half of the season.

Bush said his team this season was a great group of kids and he is looking forward to spring when he will coach most in baseball.

The girls' basketball team lost their first playoff game (38-21) to McCourt Middle School on Thursday. Coach Andrea Brayman said that after being down by only two points at the half, it was a disappointing loss.

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Register now for flag football

The Jamestown Recreation Department will start its second season of flag football on Tuesday, Feb. 26. The practices will be from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and run through April 29.

The first practice will be held at the Lawn Avenue School gym. The cost is \$20 for the first child in each family and \$10 for each additional child.

The program will be run by Bill Piva and Mark Swistak. Sign up at the Recreation Center, 41 Conanicus Ave. For more information, contact Jill at 423-7260, or e-mail jgoldstein@jamestownri.net.

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