## ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL





#### MARCH 31, 2023 VOLUME 5 - EDITION 30



### STATE CHAMPIONS



Roman Catholic High School Becomes PA State Mock Trial Champs

Roman captures first mock trial state championship in school history Harrisburg, March 25, 2023 – Roman Catholic High School was one of fourteen Pennsylvania high schools that advanced to the 40th Annual Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Statewide High School Mock Trial Competition finals, which were held March 24-25. The competition is coordinated and sponsored by the PBA Young Lawyers Division.

This year, 245 teams from 208 high schools competed in district and regional levels of Pennsylvania's mock trial competition in hopes of gaining one of the spots at the statewide competition. Pennsylvania's competition is one of the largest in the nation.

"To reach this level of the competition, it takes extraordinary teamwork, communication and analytical skills," said PBA Young Lawyers Division Chair Patrice Turenne. "The PBA extends congratulations to these dedicated, hardworking students."

Roman has won the city competition nine times in the past ten years to advance to the state tournament, but this is the first time, the team won the state title. As a result, Roman Catholic High School will represent the state at the national high school mock trial finals to be held May 18-20 in Little Rock, Arkansas. This is also the first time a team from Philadelphia won the state competition since 2004.

On March 12, 2023, Roman defeated Central High School by a score of 4 ballots to 3 to claim the region 8, city of Philadelphia title. This was the school's ninth city title in the past ten years and tenth title overall.

Two weeks later, on March 25, 2023, at the Dauphin County Courthouse in Harrisburg, PA, Roman Catholic earned its first state title by defeating Cumberland Valley High School by a score of 6 ballots to 1. Sophomore Patrick Holahan received best attorney honors and junior Aidan Conroy was recognized as best witness.

Roman Catholic's team is coached by Steven Patton, Esq., a 2008 alumnus of the school and attorney at the Law Firm of McMonagle Perri, and John Pensabene, a long-time member of the English Department at the school.

The eight student members of the mock trial team are Jeremiah Brown '23 (Audubon), Joshua Brown '24 (Audubon), Aidan Conroy '24 (Roxborough), Benjamin Foronda '23 (Fort Washington), Michael Gedraitis '23 (South Philadelphia), Troy Hammond '23 (Mount Airy), Brennan Hewitt '23 (South Philadelphia), Patrick Holahan '25 (Center City).

"These guys are amazing. They have been preparing this case since November, giving up every Saturday morning since then," said coach John Pensabene. "To win, it takes more than exceptional talent, which they had. This team decided very early in the season and to make this a united effort and work together to help each other succeed. It certainly paid off for them."

Watch the Pennsylvania State Mock Trial Championship this weekend on the PCN Channel. In the championship round, Cumberland Valley (plaintiff) takes on Roman Catholic High School (defense).

The round can be watched at the following times:

Friday, March 31st at 9:00 pm Saturday, April 1st at 2:30 pm Sunday, April 2nd at 9:30 am

## **BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME**



PIONSHIP paragraph tex

Roman Basketball played in the State Final this Saturday against Reading High School in Hershey, PA. The game was neck and neck throughout, with Hershey taking the victory by only a few points in overtime. The young men on the team are some of the hardest working athletes in the building, and they should be commended for an excellent season. Their hard work and dedication spoke for itself this season. As a school community, we are incredibly proud of them.

30



Give episode 17 of The Roman Arena Podcast a listen! Four members of Roman Catholic High School's state champion Mock Trial Team, Michael Gedraitis '23, Brennan Hewitt '23, Jeremiah Brown '23, and Troy Hammond '23, enter the arena to discuss their state title and what is next for the program.

Listen to The Roman Arena wherever you get your podcasts or by clicking

here.



#### RCHS CLASS OF 2023 SENIOR TRIP

When: Friday, May 19th,2023 Where: Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom Cost:\$60 (Includes Transportation & park tickets for both Amusement and Water)



To register complete and return the permission form and payment to Mr.Shields. For more information contact Mr. Shields at jshields@romancatholichs.com or Keshon West '23 at kwest23@romancatholichs.com. Sign-ups are due Friday April 28th. First come First serve! Spots will fill fast!

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

3rd Quarter Report Cards



The Easter holiday falls in the middle of the report card processing timeline, which will delay the distribution of 3rd quarter report cards.

The goal is for report cards to be emailed by Friday, April 14th. Mailed copies will arrive early the following week.



<u>Junior Prom Information:</u> When: Friday, April 28, 2023 from 7–11 PM Where: The Philadelphia Ballroom 2014 Hornig Road Philadelphia, PA 19116 Cost: \$160 per Couple

<u>Click Here for the</u>

Junior Prom Form

Senior Prom Information: When: Thursday, May 11, 2023 from 6-10 PM Where: Presidential Caterers 2910 DeKalb Pike East Norriton, PA 19401 Cost: \$200 per Couple

<u>Click Here for the</u>

Senior Prom Form





#### CLICK <u>HERE</u> FOR A LIST OF SUMMER CAMPS AVAILABLE TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN

#### PHILADELPHIA

# LIFEGUARDS

The City of Philadelphia is hiring lifeguards for the summer. 1. Positions start at \$16 2. Ages 16 and up 3. Free training 4. Free certification for 16-24 year olds 5. Apply before April 15 to receive a \$1,000 end-of-the-season bonus. For more information, visit <u>Phila.gov/lifeguard</u>





Dear Parents & Guardians,

As in past years, I write with a special invitation for you to participate in a very important project here at Roman Catholic High School – our annual Continuous Improvement Survey. The data we gather from the survey helps us understand what we are doing well as a school and also what opportunities we have to make us even better.

Survey questions center on five key areas, Instructional Quality, Constituent Relations, Operational Excellence, Finance, and Overall Satisfaction. We estimate it should take 15-20 minutes to complete. You will have the chance to rate each area on a five point scale and also add comments where necessary.

Some other details:

- The survey will be open from now, until April 8th.
- Since parents from each Archdiocesan high school will be completing the survey, we ask that if you have students at a high school you complete the survey at each school.
- All information gathered is secure (you don't have to provide your name).
- For data accuracy, we ask each family to complete the survey once.

We will receive the survey results in April and will communicate them to you soon after. Know that all data gathered benefits us here at Roman Catholic High School. The survey results will provide us with needed data that helps us maintain a school culture focused on continuous improvement.

Here is the survey link:

https://www.research.net/r/aops-pf

The code is: H#214

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

John Curry Roman Catholic High School

#### PARENT REMINDERS

Parents and Guardians: Please click <u>here</u> for directions on how to e-sign all of your son's back to school forms. If you need assistance getting into your parent portal on PowerSchool, please contact Ms. Shipton at mshipton@romancatholichs.com. These forms can ONLY be accessed through your parent portal, not on the student portal. It is easier to complete on a desktop computer and must be done on an internet browser, not the PowerSchool app.

#### From the Tuition Office:

The Facts Tuition 2023-2024 Financial Aid Application is open at <u>factsmgt.com</u>. If you need assistance applying, please call 1-866-441-4637.

#### Academic Help for Struggling Students:

Did your son struggle academically the first semester? We have been running Academic Assistance Program after school since the end of the first quarter. AAP is held every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday right after school for about an hour. The group meets in either Room 10 or the Learning Commons. National Honor Society tutors are available to assist students. If after school is not a great option, Mr. Giachetti is also holding tutoring sessions from 7am - 8am every morning in Room 10. He is able to assist students with English and with writing for any class. Please encourage your son to attend!

## For Information from Guidance

## Tips for Addressing Academic Concerns