

Big North girls basketball Player of the Year and other postseason honors, 2022-23

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Rylie Theuerkauf (14) of Tenafly drives to the basket past Ava Burk (40) of Pascack Valley during the NJSIAA, North Jersey, Section 1, Group 3 girls basketball first round between Pascack Valley and Tenafly at Pascack Valley High School in Hillsdale, NJ on Monday, February 20, 2023. Mile Djordjiovski | For NJ Advance Media

By

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BIG NORTH CONFERENCE YEAR IN REVIEW, 2022-23

Player of the Year: Rylie Theuerkauf, Tenafly

One of the best pure scorers in the state during her high school career, Theuerkauf led Tenafly to its best season in years and graduates as one of the top scorers in Bergen County history. The Wake Forest bound senior scored 2,482 points and averaged 28.6 points per game this winter.

Tenafly went 17-8 this season before falling to Pascack Valley in the first round in North 1, Group 3, but Tenafly doesn't have the success it has this season without Theuerkauf. She scored at least 30 points in 12 games this season against some of the top teams in the Big North Conference and dropped at least 40 points twice this winter.

She also rebounded the basketball, averaging 8.3 rebounds per game.

Coach of the Year: Brad Allen, Teaneck

It was a banner season for coach Brad Allen and Teaneck. Allen led Teaneck to its first sectional championship since 2012 with an overtime win over Sparta in a thrilling North 1, Group 3 final. The future is bright for Allen and his Teaneck squad for future years, with freshmen Lexi Carnegie and Jillian Carter leading the way as well as juniors Erin Frazier and Demi Simpson, who both had big contributions throughout the season.

Senior Ciara Forbes provided leadership and hit big shots down the stretch, highlighted by two 3-pointers in overtime during the win over Sparta. Carnegie showed why she was among the top freshmen in the state, leading Teaneck in scoring during her impressive rookie campaign. Teaneck ended the year with a 20-8 record and as the No. 18 team in the final NJ.com Top 20.

Expectations will be high for Teaneck next season with four starters set to return, but Allen showed his coaching ability this season and will bring back one of the most exciting squads in the state next winter.

Team of the Year: Immaculate Heart

Only one New Jersey team has been able to defeat St. John Vianney during the Lancers' recent run over the past few years. That team ended up being Immaculate Heart, which ended St. John Vianney's remarkable 92-game winning streak against in-state opponents during the Non-Public A final. Coach Steve Silver's team made every big shot imaginable against St. John Vianney, with senior point guard Isabella Asencio leading the way with a game-high 25 points.

Immaculate Heart ended the season with a 25-4 record, rising to the No. 5 spot in the final [NJ.com](#) Top 20. Seniors Asencio, Julia Schutz and Ava Naszimento all made their marks on the program throughout their prep careers. Junior Selena Cieszko and sophomore Sofia Valente each come up huge throughout the course of the season.

The only thing that eluded IHA this season was a Bergen County Tournament championship, but winning its 11th consecutive North Jersey, Non-Public A title as well as defeating SJV to win its first Non-Public A championship since 2014 more than made up for it.

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