



2023 - 2024  
**BENILDE-ST. MARGARET'S**  
BASKETBALL MEDIA GUIDE



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**1974-2024**

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Welcome,

Welcome to BSM basketball and to the Haben Center, I hope that you enjoy watching our Red Knight basketball teams. We will do our best to ensure an inviting and safe environment for our kids to play in, our officials to do their jobs in, and you to watch great basketball. Our goal is to work together to provide inclusive and positive sporting events for our community!

I am very excited for the girls' and boys' seasons to get underway. The Red Knights have a tradition of fair play and success as both programs play an exciting brand of basketball. We expect outstanding seasons!

Please enjoy tonight's game and remember that if you can't join us in person for home games – you can watch us on the BSM YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/c/BenildeStMargaretsSchool>.

Go Red Knights!

Rick Johns '70, CMAA  
Director of Athletics and Activities  
Benilde-St. Margaret's School





**Thank you to all of the coaches and alumni from Benilde High School, St. Margaret's Academy, and Benilde-St. Margaret's who have shaped our basketball culture. You have left an incredible legacy.**

## GIRLS' COLLEGE PLAYERS

Molly Cashman '76	University of Notre Dame
Jill Somers Rivero '77	Marquette, St. Thomas
Joan Kowalsky '77	University of Minnesota
Kathy Ross '78	University of St. Thomas
Mary Ross '78	University of St. Thomas
Lisa Morin '78	Marquette University
Shannon Duffy '78	University of St. Thomas
Pauline Knaeble '84	Macalester College
Jane Whitlock '84	Lawrence University
Jenny Phillips '85	University of St. Thomas
Mary Aubart Schaefer '85	University of St. Thomas
Maggie Kukar '93	University of Wisconsin Eau Claire
Sara Wartman '94	College of Saint Benedict
Stephanie Tousant '95	Southwest Minnesota State University
Colleen Kaster '97	University of St. Thomas
Stevi Seitz '04	Idaho State/Regis University
Chanica Hall '06	University of Detroit
Eliese Hansberry '06	Colorado College
Kachine Alexander '07	University of Iowa
Brittany Mayclin '07	Southwest State
LaToya Wiliam '07	Concordia University, St. Paul
Colleen Ruane '08	Gustavus Adolphus College
Itisha Alexander '10	College of Saint Benedict
Lindsay Kaminski '11	St. Louis University
Khadijah Shumpert '12	New Mexico State University
Josie Dillon '12	University of North Dakota
Grace Coughlin '14	U of Minnesota
Azzaria Jackson Sherrod '15	Emory University
Abby Wilgers '16	St. Olaf College
Brooke Stanley '16	Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)
Skylar Kosek '17	Hamline University
Aiana Whitfield '19	Carleton College
Olivia Williams '19	North Dakota State
Patience Williams '20	College of Science
Sierre Lumpkin '23	University of South Florida
	Loyola Marymount University

## BOYS' COLLEGE PLAYERS

Steve Smith '63	University of St. Thomas
Jerry Babcock '64	Creighton University
Jim Flick '64	College of Saint John's
Dave Polson '65	Hamline University
Larry Savage '65	Bemidji State University
Terry Mahoney '66	University of St. Thomas
Larry Mikan '66	University of Minnesota
Art Moore '66	Creighton University
Terry Mikan '67	University of St. Thomas
Dick Wright '68	University of St. Thomas
Bill Manning '69	Creighton University
Tim Mueller '70	College of Saint John's
John Reger '70	Stanford University
Mike Feyereisen '71	College of St. John's
Greg Blevins '72	North Hennepin
Jeff Langaard '73	Anoka Ramsey
Mark Lenss '75	College of Saint John's
Andy Knaeble '81	Anoka Ramsey
Mary Knaeble '82	Anoka Ramsey
Tim Merrigan '82	St. Mary's Winona
Jason Owens '82	University of Jamestown
John Weber '82	University of St. Thomas
Steve Ruder '83	University of St. Thomas
Kevin Weber '83	University of St. Thomas
Tim Nelson '86	University of St. Thomas
Devean George '95	Augsburg University
Robert Gutierrez '98	William Penn University
James Brackin '99	College of Saint John's
Matt Kukar '99	College of Saint John's
Nic Marx '99	University of St. Thomas
Andy Sherburne '99	College of Saint John's
Chris Anderson '00	Moorehead State University
Chad Bruesehoff '00	St. Mary's Winona
Jason Hill '00	Clarke College
Jesse Farell '01	Trinity College
Jared Sighting '02	Marquette University
Sandy Yancy '02	North Dakota State College of Science
Seaborn Yancy '03	Concordia - St. Paul
Bill Cloak '05	Worthington University
Mike DesLauriers '05	Gustavus Adolphus
RK Glover '06	Denison University
Armond Battle '08	Wright State/Urbana
Jordan Taylor '08	University of Wisconsin Madison
Stuart Neville '08	St. Olaf's College
Alex Miller '09	University of St. Thomas
Peter Crawford '10	University of Minnesota Duluth
Darren Glover '10	St. Michael's/VT
Seth Marx '10	College of Saint John's
Nick Meyer '10	College of Saint John's
Evan Battle '11	Clarion University
Joe Gill	Bethel '12 Bethel University
Isaiah Gray '12	Winona State
Danon Briggs '12	College of Saint John's
Will Dunn '12	Indiana University - Purdue University Fort Wayne/St. Thomas
Sanjay Lumpkin '12	Northwestern University
Isaiah Zierden '12	Creighton University
Eli Cave '16	St. Mary's Winona
Will Whitmore '17	University of St. Thomas
Joe Dunn '18	University of St. Thomas
Riley Miller '18	University of St. Thomas
Carter Uphus '18	St. Olaf College
Nels Birkeland '20	Concordia University, Moorehead
Walker Johnson '20	Concordia University, St. Paul
Charlie Hansen '21	Viterbo University
Daniel Ijadimbola '22	Bemidji State University
Ryan Warren '22	St. Olaf College



**Scan this QR code to go directly to the BSM basketball website for updates, schedules and more information.**

## GIRLS' PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

Through a **Me First, For Us** mentality, we will embody a **Relentless Commitment to Excellence**.

The relentless pursuit of excellence is the foundation of our program. Commitment to the sport, team and self is the first priority for our players and staff. We must do our part to help the team succeed - ME FIRST. We will all have clear expectations and roles defined early in the process. Individually we will work tirelessly to perfect our craft which leads to team success.

Me First - I will do what I need to do to help our team succeed.

Relentless - I will do whatever I can to reach excellence.

Commitment - I will be willing to sacrifice for my development and our team's success.

Excellence - When we deliver excellence, we give of ourselves in a way that exceeds our own expectations; we will make the effort to achieve that level of distinction.

We believe that lasting success is not possible without an ethic of excellence.

## BOYS' PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The primary focus of Red Knight basketball is to foster an environment that enhances growth and development. Our job as coaches is to challenge players to progress socially, spiritually, academically, and athletically. We want to stimulate growth by pushing players to step out of their comfort zone. We believe in giving players the leadership tools to handle adversity by learning how to be comfortable in uncomfortable situations. We want to teach players in our program to focus more on what we can control than what we can't. We can always control our PACE, which outlines our Core Values

**Preparation**  
**Attitude**  
**Commitment**  
**Effort**

If we can focus on controlling our PACE at a high level, everything else will take care of itself.

## SCHOOL ROUSER



Go! Benilde-St. Margaret's High  
We cheer with pride today.  
Our voices strong with courage  
Hear the cry  
And join in song to say....  
Fight! Fight! Fight!  
For honor with pride  
Red and white all hail to your side  
Red Knights will ever be  
Charging on to a victory!





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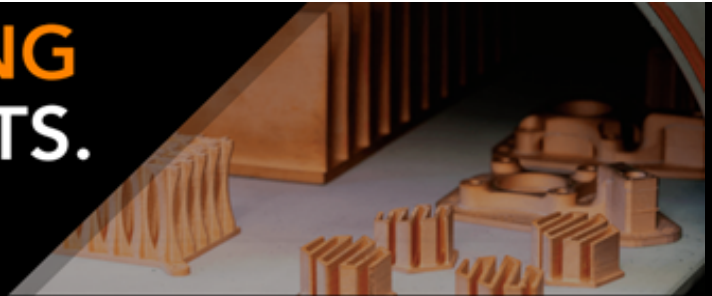
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## THANK YOU *so much!*

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MANAGERS

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## TIM ELLEFSON: VARSITY HEAD COACH

Coach Ellefson is in his second season as the girls' varsity head coach and serves as a BSM math teacher. He spent his previous nine years coaching at Hutchinson High School amassing a 166-76 record. Coach Ellefson is also proud of his 15 years coaching football for the Tigers which included three state championships. Last season's state run led to Coach Ellefson's first basketball state title. Tim is married to his wife, Lisa, and he has two daughters, Erica and Annika. In the off-season, he is heavily involved with the Minnesota Fury AAU program, coaching multiple teams while showcasing the talent in Minnesota across the country.

## SETH POTTER: VARSITY ASSISTANT COACH

This is Seth Potter's second year as the assistant girls' varsity basketball coach. He is originally from St. Ignatius, Montana, and attended college at Bemidji State University. Seth teaches and lives in Delano with his wife Sara. They are the parents of Caroline, their three-year-old daughter.





## AJUDA ALWAL: JUNIOR VARSITY COACH

This will be coach Alwal's ninth year coaching at the high school level. He has coached all levels from fourth grade to high school varsity assistant. He coaches players to see the game better and helps them become stronger players, teammates, and overall human beings. He is a big sports fan and spends his free time watching or attending sports. He is proud of his role in the special BSM community.

## RANDY HOBBS: B SQUAD COACH

Coach Hobbs coached for the boys' program at BSM from 1995-2007. After 12 years he moved to the girls' program and has been involved with the Red Knight girls' basketball program ever since. In 2022-2023 Hobbs was an assistant coach and this year, he will work with all teams serving an important role in building culture. His coaching emphasis will include working hard, being coachable, and executing defensive pressure throughout the program.

## ANNIE SMITH: C SQUAD COACH

Coach Smith is in her second year at BSM where she also teaches math. She has been coaching girls' basketball for the past eight years. She has coached middle school through varsity levels. Coach Smith enjoys teaching the fundamentals of the game and helping players grow in their decision-making skills. She also enjoys seeing her players work hard for a common goal while learning the game.

## COACHES



L to R: Seth Potter, Randy Hobbs, Tim Ellefson, Annie Smith, and Ajuda Alwal

## MANAGERS



L to R: Aspen Franklin '25, Bella Hobbs '25, and Hannah Antonio '24



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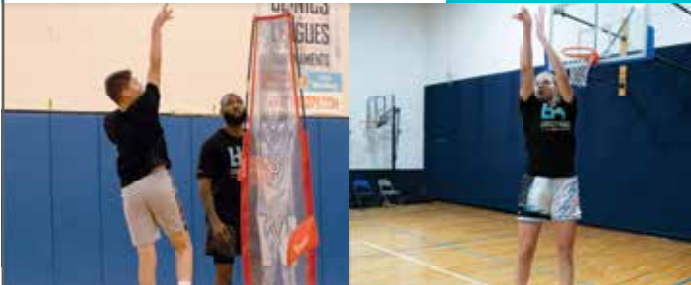


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# BSM GIRLS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE 2023-2024

**HOME**

**AWAY**

<b>SAT</b>	<b>NOV 18</b>	<b>@ EDINA</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>NOV 25</b>	<b>@ STA (VS PROVIDENCE)</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>NOV 28</b>	<b>VS HILL MURRAY</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>DEC 2</b>	<b>@ HOPKINS</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>DEC 6</b>	<b>VS COOPER</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>DEC 8</b>	<b>@ EDEN PRARIE</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>DEC 15</b>	<b>VS ALEXANDRIA</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>DEC 19</b>	<b>@ HOLY ANGELS</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>DEC 22</b>	<b>VS DELASALLE</b>
<b>THU</b>	<b>JAN 4</b>	<b>VS JORDAN</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>JAN 9</b>	<b>@ CHASKA</b>
<b>THU</b>	<b>JAN 11</b>	<b>VS NEW PRAGUE</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>JAN 13</b>	<b>@ KM (VS STEWARTVILLE)</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>JAN 16</b>	<b>@ JEFFERSON</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>JAN 19</b>	<b>@ ST LOUIS PARK</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>JAN 23</b>	<b>VS CHANHASSEN</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>JAN 26</b>	<b>@ WACONIA</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>JAN 27</b>	<b>@ STMA</b>
<b>MON</b>	<b>JAN 29</b>	<b>VS ORONO</b>
<b>THU</b>	<b>FEB 1</b>	<b>VS CHASKA</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>FEB 6</b>	<b>@ NEW PRAGUE</b>
<b>THU</b>	<b>FEB 8</b>	<b>VS JEFFERSON</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>FEB 10</b>	<b>VS BECKER</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>FEB 13</b>	<b>VS ST LOUIS PARK</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>FEB 16</b>	<b>@ CHANHASSEN</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>FEB 20</b>	<b>VS WACONIA</b>
<b>THU</b>	<b>FEB 22</b>	<b>@ ORONO</b>



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## CAPTAINS

**Kate Kapsner '25** returns to the court this year as a junior. This is her third year in the varsity program. She is a true leader, both on and off the court. She believes in leading by example and with a spirit of service to her teammates, her school, and the greater community. She has sharp court vision which is key in her role as a tough defender. Kate is also known as a dependable and a consistent 3-point shooter. Kate was a huge contributor during the state tournament last season and was named to the 2023 State All-Tournament Team. In the off season, Kate plays on the Adidas 3SSB circuit with her AAU team, the Metro Stars. Off the court, she enjoys cooking, baking, hanging with friends and volunteering at Methodist Hospital.

**Kendall McGee '25** has played varsity basketball since she was in the 7th grade. She came to BSM in 9th grade where she averaged 20 points per game, 5.7 rebounds per game, 2.9 assists per game, and 2.6 steals per game during the 2022-2023 season. Kendall suffered a multiple ligament knee injury in the semi-final game of the 2023 MN State Tournament and is working hard to get back on the court. Kendall plays AAU for the Minnesota Stars and has helped her team win four state tournaments over the years. She also frequently placed in the top 10 for PPG and 3PG on the Adidas 3SSB Circuit during summer basketball. While Kendall is a vocal leader on the bench during her recovery, she is anxious to rejoin her team on the court.

**Olivia Olson '24** has been a varsity starter since 8th grade. Last season she led the Red Knights in scoring and assists and broke the BSM career point record as a junior. She is looking forward to building on the success of a state championship last year. Olivia is always working to increase her knowledge of the game and has goals to be an offensive and defensive threat this season. Olivia was a Star Tribune 2022-2023 All-Metro, All-State, and All-Tournament team honoree last season. Olivia also participates in the Jr. NBA Court Leaders Program, runs her own business, volunteers, and works at youth basketball camps. This fall, she also helped the BSM girls' soccer team win a state championship as the starting goalkeeper and was named to the All-State and All-Tournament teams for girls' soccer. Olivia is headed to the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, to study sports management and continue her basketball career next year.



L to R: Kate Kapsner, Olivia Olson,  
Kendall McGee



Jersey #	Varsity	Grade
1	Olivia Olson*	12
4	Sydney Friedly	9
5	Zahara Bishop	11
10	Bella Yacoub	11
11	Bella Stevenson-Shimek	11
13	Pressley Watkins	9
14	Mira Wismer	10
22	Audrey Pohl	11
25	Ashley Skram	11
30	Kendall McGee*	11
32	Asiyah Wilson	12
33	Kate Kapsner*	11
35	Josie Nnaji	11

\*Captains

Jersey #	JV/B Squad	Grade
0	Harper Stevenson-Shimek	10
2	Zaida Jenkins	8
3	Maria Johnson	8
5	Bevelyn Rioba	10
12	Sailor Friedly	9
13	Maddie Seymour	10
15	Lucy Johnson	9
20	Sammy Gearen	10
21	Aida Parker	9
23	Eleanor Porisch	10
24	Madeline Yacoub	9
31	Cherish Dixon	10
32	Savannah Tepoorten	9
34	Harper Wohlrabe	10

Jersey #	C Squad	Grade
1	Izzy Adeniran-Ogunsanya	9
3	Sophia Grant	9
10	Mae Breunig	9
11	Delena Gebremicael	9
12	Ava Doering	9
15	Tiffany Morara	9
22	Kassidy Miller	9
23	Madeline Peterson	9
25	Kierstin Ehmler	9
30	Evelyn Pickar	9
31	Olivia Brennan	0
32	Cecilia Hanson	9





**VARSITY:** L to R, front row: Bella Stevenson-Shimek, Ashley Skram, Sydney Friedly, Pressley Watkins, Audrey Pohl, Bella Yacoub, and Asiyah Wilson; back row: Coach Tim Ellefson, Kendall McGee, Zahara Bishop, Kate Kapsner, Olivia Olson, Mira Wismer, Josie Nnaji and Coach Seth Potter



**JV/B SQUAD:** L to R, front row: Zaida Jenkins, Maria Johnson, Maddie Seymour, Cherish Dixon, Aida Parker, Madeline Yacoub, and Bevelyn Rioba; back row: Coach Randy Hobbs, Lucy Johnson, Sailor Friedly, Eleanor Porisch, Savannah Tepoorten, Harper Stevenson-Shimek, Harper Wohlrahe, Sammy Gearen, and Coach Ajuda Alwal



**C SQUAD:** L to R, front row: Mae Breunig, Delena Gebremicael, Celia Hanson, Olivia Brennan, and Sophia Grant; back row: Coach Annie Smith, Tiffany Morara, Ava Doering, Evelyn Pickar, Isabella Ogunsanya, and Kierstin Ehmiller. Not pictured Sofia Walters and Cassidy Miller





## **GIRLS' 2022-23 SEASON RECAP**

The Benilde St. Margaret's girls' basketball team's journey to becoming state champions under a new coaching staff is truly inspiring. Overcoming the challenges of transformative change and high expectations, they not only achieved victory on the court but also demonstrated remarkable qualities of resilience, adaptability, and determination.

The team's success in meeting high expectations despite the initial uncertainties and mixed feelings among the players is a testament to their strength as a unit. The introduction to Coach Ellefson's new systems and strategies undoubtedly presented challenges, but the team's perseverance and commitment to mastering the new approach ultimately led to their remarkable transformation.

The fact that some players adapted seamlessly while others found the transition challenging highlights the diversity of experiences within the team. Nonetheless, their collective journey and growth as a team are evident in the Red Knight's season record of 26 wins and six losses. This record reflects their ability to overcome early uncertainties and emerge as a unified force on the court.

Their triumph in securing the state championship goes beyond the victory itself; it symbolizes the Red Knights' collective resilience and unwavering determination in the face of significant changes. Their ability to execute on the court speaks volumes about their hard work and dedication throughout the season.

Ultimately, the Benilde St. Margaret's girls' basketball team's victory is a well-deserved and unforgettable achievement. Their journey serves as an inspiration to others, showcasing the power of perseverance, adaptability, and teamwork in the face of adversity.

Section Quarters - BSM 67 vs Bloomington Kennedy 39

Section Semifinal - BSM 60 vs Delano 57

Section Final - BSM 71 vs Holy Angels 47

State Quarters - BSM 64 vs DeLaSalle 53

State Semifinal - BSM 70 vs Alexandria 51

State Championship - BSM 66 vs Stewartville 60

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## GIRLS' BASKETBALL HISTORY

The girls' basketball program has strong roots following the 1974 merger of Benilde High School and St. Margaret's Academy. Fresh off of an Independent Schools state championship in 1974, the 1975-76 and 1976-1977 teams continued rolling over their opponents with 14-0 and 21-0 undefeated regular seasons. The 1976-77 team made it to the state championship but lost by two points in the final minutes to St. Paul Central. Short of winning a state championship, these early teams were about as successful as any team could dream of with strong starting lineups and many talented players.

Perhaps more important than winning records and a state championship run, however, was the culture shift that these women created in rising to the top of their sport. At that time, female athletes were given little respect and had to fight for gym time, uniforms, and equipment in their new "merged" school. Their athleticism and positive culture demonstrated to their male classmates, administrators, and other students that they were worthy of athletic accolades and their success was a major contributing factor for unifying classmates from Benilde High School and St. Margaret's Academy to form Benilde-St. Margaret's. This new athletic culture put BSM on the map and the legacy of these women and countless others from the 80s, 90s and 2000s paved the way for current young women to make their mark on the court and in the classroom. Thank you to all of the alumni in our history who served as positive role models for current and future players.

## GIRLS' BASKETBALL LEADERS

### CAREER SCORING LEADERS

Olivia Olson	1838
Kendall McGee	1685
Stevi Seitz	1492
Grace Coughlin	1447
Khadijah Shumpert	1400
Latoya Williams	1373
Kachine Alexander	1334

### CAREER 3-PT. SHOTS MADE

Josie Dillon	176
Kendall McGee	134
Olivia Olson	96
Sam Morgan	90
Itisha Alexander	83

### CAREER 3 PT % (MIN 100 ATT)

Stevi Seitz	40%	45/112
Ginny Lyons	38%	39/103
Josie Dillon	33%	176/541

### CAREER FT %

Grace Coughlin	82%	346/420
----------------	-----	---------

### CAREER FG %

Khadijah Shumpert	61%	565/925
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### CAREER REBOUNDS

Stevi Seitz	1,000
Khadijah Shumpert	845
Olivia Olson	776
Kachine Alexander	697

### CAREER ASSISTS

Grace Coughlin	360
Stevi Seitz	316
Olivia Olson	312
Itisha Alexander	291
Kendall McGee	282
Kachine Alexander	248

### CAREER STEALS

Stevi Seitz	367
Kachine Alexander	335
Itisha Alexander	323
Kendall McGee	272
Aiana Whitfield	270
Olivia Olson	266

### CLASS AAA STATE CHAMPIONS 2006, 2008, 2010, 2023









# GIRLS' BASKETBALL





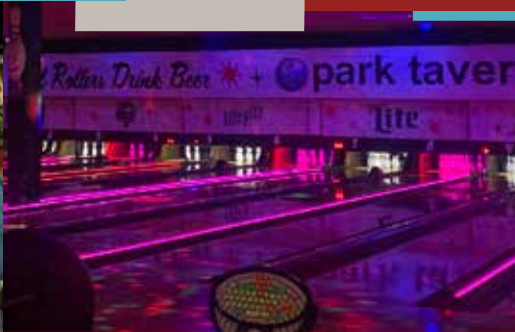




# GIRLS' BASKETBALL







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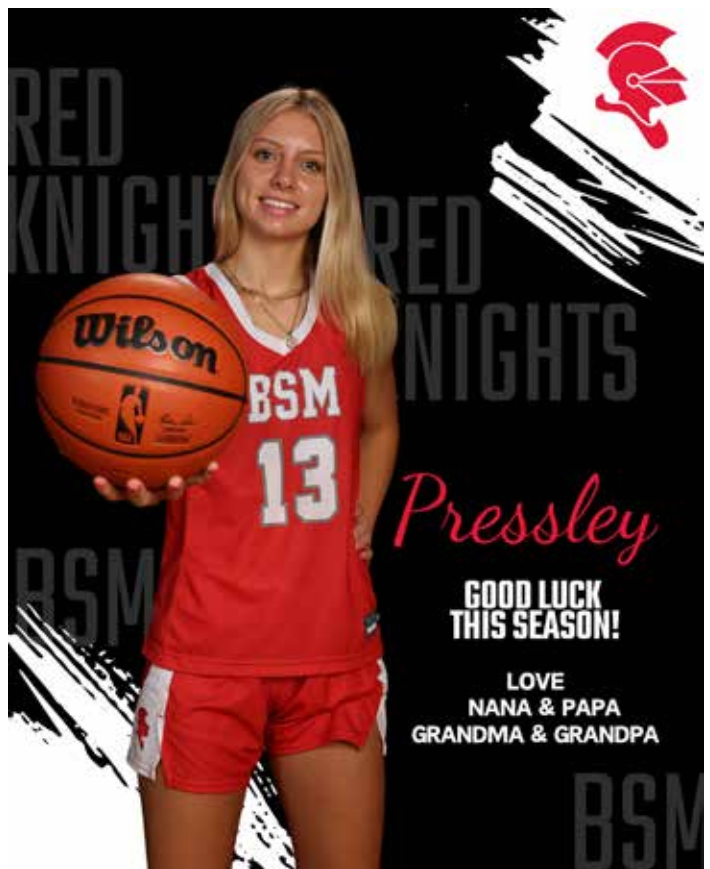
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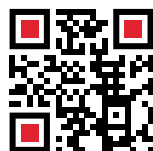
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### **DAMIAN JOHNSON: VARSITY HEAD COACH**

Coach Johnson is in his fourth year as boys' varsity head coach at Benilde-St. Margaret's. This is his fifth season as a head coach, and his seventh season coaching high school basketball. He was previously the boys' varsity coach at North St. Paul High School, winning the Metro East championship in 2017-2018 (15-1 Conference Record; school record for wins in a season) and again in 2019-2020 (15-1 Conference Record; set a school record with a 17-game winning streak). In 2022-2023, the BSM Red Knights were the Metro West Conference Champions. Johnson was named Metro West Coach of the Year & Section 6AAA Coach of the year for the 2022-2023 season. Johnson played college basketball at the University of Minnesota where he ranked 3rd all-time in steals & blocks. He played for five years professionally in the NBA G League, Japan, and for three years in Australia where he won three championships with two teams. He is married to the lovely Tasha Johnson, and they have five beautiful and highly active children (Jrue 13, Li'Elle 11, Da'Miah 7, Zara 5, and Ashlynn 3).

### **BILL CHENEY: VARSITY ASSISTANT COACH**

Bill Cheney has coached at BSM for almost a decade and is entering his seventh year as boys' varsity assistant. Bill has an audio engineering degree from the Institute of Production and Recording. Bill and wife Callianne Olson, a BSM English teacher and girls' soccer coach, devote significant time and energy to the Red Knights.

### **AARON ROBINSON: VARSITY ASSISTANT COACH**

Aaron Robinson is a former Minnesota Gopher point guard (2001-05). He was born and raised in Rockford, Illinois, and he was a key contributor to the Gophers' 2005 NCAA Tournament appearance. He was named 2nd All-Decade Team by The Daily Gopher. After his time with the Gophers, Aaron has served as a high school basketball coach and player development trainer since 2006. and has coached with Damian Johnson for the last seven seasons. Aaron has son "Aj" (9) and daughter "Laila." (6).

### **ROB EPPINGER JR.: VARSITY ASSISTANT COACH**

Coach Eppinger brings a wealth of experience as a high-level player and coach. He was the varsity assistant/player development coach at South Saint Paul with a record of 52-2 over two seasons. Eppinger played college basketball at the University of Illinois-Chicago and played professionally in Argentina. He is the founder of Minnesota Top Dawgs, a youth program that works closely with the development of youth basketball players. His passion for teaching young men on and off the court will be vital in the continued growth of the program.

### **RYAN MIKISKA: VARSITY ASSISTANT COACH**

Coach Mikiska is in his fourth-year coaching at Benilde St. Margaret's, and spent the last two years as the boys' JV head coach. He coached for a combined 15 years at Apple Valley, Washburn, and Rosemount on the boys' side. He also coaches AAU basketball for the MN Fury and is a program assistant for the youth group in 4th-8th grade. Ryan is pursuing a degree in sports psychology and currently works at Washburn High School in Minneapolis in the Special Education EBD program.



## DARREN HARRIS: JV COACH

Coach Harris has seven years of coaching experience. He started his career at Family First where he coached an AAU team in 2015. From 2016 to 2019 he was a North St. Paul traveling basketball coach, and a JV and varsity assistant. Harris moved to BSM in 2020 as the freshman head coach. He enjoys developing boys into the best players and teammates they can be.

## WILLIAM AMES: B SQUAD COACH

Coach Ames is in his second year coaching at BSM. He is a special education teacher at a St. Paul grade school. He graduated from Concordia University in St. Paul with a bachelor's degree in Sports Management. Ames played baseball and basketball at the collegiate level, and grew up in St. Paul. In his free time he enjoys bowling, volleyball, and playing Monopoly.

## EVAN BATTLE: 9 RED COACH

Coach Battle has six years of coaching experience and is in his third year as a head basketball coach. He has coached for St. Louis Park Youth Association, MN Warriors, and other Minnesota-based youth programs. Battle is a proud alum of Benilde-St. Margaret's, and was captain of the 2011 BSM Red Knights basketball team. Battle played college basketball for Clarion University of Pennsylvania, a D2 school located in Northwest Pennsylvania.


## CHARLES DUDEK: 9 WHITE COACH

Coach Dudek has six years of coaching experience, with this year being his first year coaching basketball at BSM. He has experience coaching boys' soccer and boys' ultimate Frisbee. This is Dudek's second year teaching biology and chemistry at BSM. He is from Omaha and is a big Creighton fan. His favorite play in basketball is the 1-3-1 zone.



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# BSM BOYS' BASKETBALL SCHEDULE 2023-2024

**12/5 VS MANKATO WEST**

**12/7 VS EDEN PRAIRIE**

**12/9 VS EDINA**

**12/16 @PARK CENTER**

**12/22 VS DELASALLE**

**12/28 VS MAPLE GROVE**

**12/29 VS MINNETONKA**

**1/6 @TOTINO GRACE**

**1/9 VS HOPKINS**

**1/13 VS ALEXANDRIA**

**1/16 VS JEFFERSON**

**1/19 VS ST LOUIS PARK**

**1/20 VS HOMESTEAD**

**1/23 @CHANHASSEN**

**1/26 VS WACONIA**

**1/29 @ORONO**

**2/1 @CHASKA**

**2/3 VS STEWARTVILLE**

**2/6 VS NEW PRAGUE**

**2/8 @JEFFERSON**

**2/13 @ST LOUIS PARK**

**2/16 VS CHANHASSEN**

**2/20 @WACONIA**

**2/23 VS ORONO**

**2/27 VS CHASKA**

**3/1 @NEW PRAGUE**

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## VARSITY COACHES



L to R front row: William Ames, Aaron Robinson, and Bill Cheney; back row: Ryan Mikiska, Damian Johnson, Rob Eppinger Jr., and Darren Harris

## CAPTAINS



L to R: Jayden Daisy '24, Davis Puncochar '24, and Jalen Wilson '25

## MANAGERS



Colin McGie '24



Nirvaan Yogarajah '24



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Love, Mom, Dad in Heaven, Jack and LucyLou

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## SENIORS



Davis Puncochar



Drew Kessenich



Elliott Laukka



Jayden Daisy



Ronald Lee III



Xavier Lumpkin

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Jersey #	Varsity	Grade
0	Milton Nuahn	9
1	Jayden Daisy	12
2	Elliott Laukka	12
3	Ronald Lee III	12
4	Tanner Rose	10
5	Jaleel Donley	11
10	Davis Puncchar	12
12	Luke Guggenberger	11
15	Christian Johnson	11
23	Abu Keita	11
24	Jalen Wilson	11
32	Drew Kessenich	12
34	Xavier Lumpkin	12
35	Joshua Smith	10

Jersey #	JV	Grade	Jersey #	B Squad	Grade
0	Conner Watts	9	10	Leo Scroggins	10
1	Jaidyn Garibaldi	10	12	Javion Kellogg	10
3	Cameron Best	10	20	Chase Haugen	10
22	Suvan Kirishna Mohan Kumar	10	23	Anders Petrosky	10
25	Demetrius Williams Jr.	8	24	Toby McLean	9
30	Kobbe Willis	10	25	Jonathan Moonan	9
31	Ford Nicholas	10	30	Roman Pecci	10
32	Owen Guertin	11	31	Matthew Syme	10
43	Patrick McDonald	10	41	Liam Keinath	10
			44	Henry Scroggins	10

Jersey #	9 RED	Grade	Jersey #	9 WHITE	Grade
15	Layton Wismer	8	0	Alexander Hoyt	9
21	Noah Melsen	9	12	Andrew Petit	9
22	Carter Tanious	9	14	William Mobraaten	9
24	Michael Joseph Pulcanio	9	52	Charlie Batchelor	9
30	Jacob Jorgensen	9	41	Benjamin McMerty-Brummer	9
32	Jordan Wilson	8	15	Wyatt Meittunen	9
34	Chase Sandhoefner	9	11	Dylan Meittunen	9
23	Michael Sullivan	9	42	Owen Read	9
20	Robert Brownlee Wolf	9			





**JV / VARSITY:** TOP, L to R, front row: Suvan Kirishna, Mohan Kumar, Owen Guertin, Ronald Lee, Cameron Best, Jaidyn Garibaldi, Davis Puncoclar, Conner Watts, Demetrius Williams Jr.; middle row left to right: Coach Ryan Mikiska, Coach Darren Harris, Milton Nuahn, Ford Nicholas, Drew Kessinich, Jayden Daisy, Abu Keita, Jalen Wilson, Luke Guggenberger, Coach Bill Cheney, Coach Aaron Robinson; back row left to right: Coach Rob Eppinger Jr., Coach Damian Johnson, Tanner Rose, Joshua Smith, Jaleel Donley, Christian Johnson, Kobbe Willis, Elliott Laukka, Xavier Lumpkin, and Coach William Ames



**B SQUAD:** L to R, front row: Henry Scroggins, Leo Scroggins, Jonathan Moonan, Chase Haugen; middle row left to right: Coach William Ames, Matthew Syme, Javion Kellogg, Liam Keinath; back row left to right: Toby McLean, Patrick McDonald, Anders Petrosky, and Roman Pecci



**9 RED:** L to R, front row: Noah Melsen, Carter Tanius, Robert Brownlee Wolf, Jordan Wilson; back row left to right: Michael Sullivan, Jacob Jorgensen, Coach Battle, Layton Wismer and Chase Sandhoefner. Missing from photo: Michael Joseph Pulcanio



**9 WHITE:** L to R, front row: Dylan Meittunen, Wyatt Meittunen, Alexander Hoyt, Charlie Batchelor; back row left to right: Andrew Petit, Owen Read, William Mobraaten, Benjamin McMerty-Brummer, and Coach Dudek





## BOYS' 2021-2022 SEASON RECAP

The boys' basketball team had an overall record of 24-5 and won the Metro West Conference for the first time since joining the conference in 2014. They had a 6-win improvement from the previous season and lost in the section finals, beating a total of nine AAA & AAAA state qualifiers during the season. The team also had an average GPA of 3.54. Coach Johnson expects this year's squad to take another step forward and compete for a big postseason run.

## BOYS' BASKETBALL HISTORY

Before the 1974 merger of Benilde High School and St. Margaret's Academy, Benilde played in the Central Catholic Conference (CCC) and participated in the Independent Schools State Tournaments. In the first 17 years of varsity competition, Benilde won the CCC four times, went to state 11 times and won the Catholic Schools State Championship twice. The 1965-66 team was ranked nationally in one publication. The Red Knights graduated five Division 1 players and one NBA player (Larry Mikan).

In 1975, BSM became a member of the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL). Over the next 30+ years, BSM changed to the Don Bosco Conference (1976-86) and won two conference championships, the Missota Conference (1986-97) and won one conference title, and the Metro Alliance Conference (1997-2005), winning five conference titles in seven years. In 2005-2006 the Red Knights moved to the North Suburban Conference and won four Conference Championships and took 2nd place three times. In 2014-15 BSM joined the Metro West Conference with the following schools: Bloomington Jefferson, Bloomington Kennedy, Chanhassen, Chaska, Richfield, Robbinsdale Cooper, and St. Louis Park. In 2022-2023 the Red Knights won the Metro West Conference championship.

During these years, Benilde and Benilde-St. Margaret's have had many players go on to play college basketball. Most notable are Larry Mikan '66, who attended the University of Minnesota and played in the NBA for Cleveland, and Devean George '95, who attended Augsburg College, played 11 seasons in the NBA and won three championships during his time with the Lakers.

The BSM boys' team has reached the section finals five times (1997-08, 1999-2000, 2001-02, 2004-05, 2022-2023), and appeared in three state tournaments (2006-07, 2007-08, 2009-10), playing in the finals two years in a row and winning the 2007-08 Class AAA State Championship.

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## BOYS' LEADERS

### CAREER SCORING LEADERS

Jordan Taylor	2068	2004-08
Armond Battle	1893	2004-08
Isaiah Zierden	1670	2008-12
Nic Marx	1490	1996-99

### CAREER 3-PT. SHOTS MADE

Isaiah Zierden	276	2008-12
Derek Drees	196	2014-17
Seth Marx	154	2008-10
Jordan Taylor	154	2004-08
Sam Baker	154	2013-16

### CAREER ASSIST LEADERS

Jordan Taylor	656	2004-08
Mike DesLauriers	407	2002-05
Jesse Farrell	377	1998-01
Isaiah Zierden	346	2008-12
Ryan Dolan	278	1996-99

### CAREER REBOUNDS

Armond Battle	709	2004-08
Nic Marx	626	1996-99
Chris Anderson	469	1998-00

### CAREER FREE THROW %

Isaiah Zierden	351-409 (.8582)	2008-12
Riley Miller	88-103 (.8544)	2016-18
Sam Baker	203-252 (.8056)	2013-16
Sanjay Lumpkin	146-186 (.7849)	2009-12
Matt Lilienthal	155-197 (.7665)	2012-16

### CAREER BLOCKS

Nic Marx	128	1996-99
Armond Battle	123	2004-08
Carter Uphus	102	2015-18
Kyle Washington	100	2009-11
Eli Cave	95	2014-16

### CAREER STEALS

Jordan Taylor	327	2004-08
Armond Battle	173	2004-08
Isaiah Zierden	161	2008-12
Nic Marx	145	1996-99
Mike DesLauriers	125	2002-05

## JIM FLICK

Who is Jim Flick? Flick played on both the Benilde High School '63 and '64 championship teams. He was the captain and point guard on the '64 championship team that went 18-4 and he was voted the MVP of the 1964 Catholic Schools Tournament. Legend has it that he did not have a single turnover during the entire 3-game State Tournament. He went on to play at St. John's University. After the season, coach Bill Haben retired Flick's number. In later years, #23 was awarded to players that best exemplified Flick's character, leadership, attitude, determination and teamwork. A 4'x8' banner with the #23 hangs in the Haben Center along with another banner listing the other honorees: Jim Flick '64, Terry Mahoney '66, Dick Wright '68, Greg Blevins '71, Jesse Farrell '01, Mike DesLauriers '05, Jordan Taylor '08, Joe Dunn '18 and Sam Best '22.









# BOYS' BASKETBALL





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A collage of images related to Benilde-St. Margaret's basketball. On the left, a player in a red jersey with the number 5 is jumping to shoot a basketball, while a player in a white and blue jersey jumps to block. In the background, several championship banners are visible, including 'CLASS A STATE CHAMPION 2012' and 'STATE CHAMPION 2001'. On the right, a player in a red jersey with the number 1 is jumping to shoot a basketball. In the bottom left corner, there is a green award seal that says 'MINNESOTA'S Best'. In the bottom center, there is a shield-shaped logo with the text 'PIETAS' and 'BENILDE-ST. MARGARET'S'. In the bottom right corner, there is a QR code and the text 'Benilde-St. Margaret's'.

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2023**

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**66**

**FINAL**

**60**



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