ATHLETICS NEWSLETTER

855 HEARTHSTONE DR. CATHOLICHIGH.ORG @CHSBRATHLETICS



Bears in the Bright Lights

This month's Bear in the Bright Lights is junior Tennis player Immanuel Nezianya. A Varsity player this year, Immanuel has played tennis all his life and has been on the Catholic High Tennis Team since his freshman year. As a junior, he has been able to take on a much bigger role than in previous years, and he answered a few questions about it. (See Pg.2)

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

Monday April 20th

Tennis Regional Tournament (Times TBD)

Tuesday, April 21st

Tennis Regional Tournament (Times TBD)

Thursday, April 23rd

Track District Championships 1:30-7 PM

Baseball V Playoffs (vs St. Augustine) 5 PM

Golf (Team A) LHSAA District Tournament

Friday, April 24th

Baseball V Playoffs (vs St. Augustine) 5 PM

Saturday, April 25th

Baseball V Playoffs (vs St. Augustine) 11 AM-If Necessary

Monday, April 27

Student vs Faculty Basketball Game 3 PM

Tuesday, April 28th

Fishing Team Meeting (State Meeting).

Spring Signing Ceremony 4:30 PM



TWO BEAR WRESTLERS EARN ALL-AMERICAN HONORS

Caleb Kirk (Sophomore) and Paul Evans (8th Grade) earned All-American Honors at the 2026 NHSCA High School Nationals. Kirk became the first Bear in program history to receive this award. He finished in 3rd place for his weight class. Kirk dominated in his final match of the tournament, winning 11-0.

Paul Evans placed 6th in his weight class at the competition and came back as an All-American as well. In his final win, he defeated Devin Hord, 4-1, solidifying himself as one of the top middle school wrestlers in the tournament.

Letter From The Athletic Director

As we near the end of the 2025-2026 school year, I want to reiterate how blessed I am to lead this athletic department. The opportunity to work with the outstanding coaches and young men of CHS is a joy. But, there's still time for our Bears to compete for multiple championships! So, let's continue to support our student-athletes and FINISH STRONG!



Bears in the Bright Lights

This month we asked Junior Immanuel Nezianya some questions about his time at Catholic High and his experience with the Tennis Team.





Q: HOW HAS BEING A JUNIOR CHANGED YOUR ROLE ON THE TEAM COMPARED TO FRESHMAN OR SOPHOMORE YEAR?

A: BEING A JUNIOR HAS CHANGED MY ROLE ON THE TEAM COMPARED TO FRESHMAN OR SOPHOMORE YEAR BY GIVING ME AN IDEA OF PREPARATION FOR SENIOR YEAR. MORE MEMORABLE AND MAKING MORE FRIENDS ALONG THE WAY.

Q: HOW DO YOU HANDLE PRESSURE DURING CLOSE MATCHES OR TIEBREAKS?

A: I HANDLE PRESSURE DURING CLOSE MATCHES OR TIEBREAKS IS THAT THEY MAKE ME PLAY MORE RELAXED AND LESS STRESSFUL. I PUT MY MINDSET INTO THAT PRESSURE IS A PRIVELAGE NOT A RIGHT. ALSO THAT PRESSURE IS SOMETHING THAT YOU CONTROL BY SINGING A SONG OR TAKING YOUR MIND OFF THINGS.

Q: HOW DO YOU BALANCE SCHOOLWORK, TENNIS, AND PERSONAL LIFE?

A: I BALANCED SCHOOLWORK, TENNIS, AND PERSONAL LIFE BY CREATING A SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ON A CALENDER. BY LABELING THE BIG EVENTS FIRST TO THE LEAST IMPORTANT EVENTS. WITH HOMEWORK ON THE SIDE NOTE.

Upcoming Events (Cont.)

Wednesday, April 29
Tennis State Tournament (TBD)
Track (V) 5A Region II Championship @ Zachary

Thursday, April 30
Tennis State Tournament (TBD)

Friday, May 1
Tennis State Tournament (TBD)

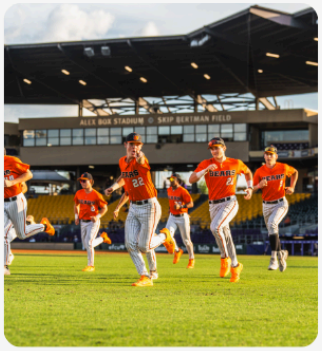
Saturday, May 4th
Golf (Team A) LHSAA State Tournament

Sunday, May 5th
Golf (Team A) LHSAA State Tournament

This Month in Pictures


Ethan Cook '28


William Hardie '28


William McDaniel '26


Patrick Dawes '28

BBN BRUIN BROADCAST NETWORK ON rumble VSN

BRUIN BROADCAST NETWORK STREAM UPDATE

DO YOU WANT TO SEE SPORTING EVENTS LIVE FROM WHEREVER YOU ARE? THEN FOLLOW THE BRUIN BROADCAST NETWORK ON RUMBLE.COM.

TO WATCH LIVE/PREVIOUS EVENTS:

SEARCH RUMBLE.COM ON YOUR DEVICE AND THEN SEARCH INSIDE THE RUMBLE PAGE "CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL".
YOU CAN ALSO WATCH EVENTS ON VARSITY SPORTS NO. WE DO OTHER EVENTS SUCH AS CHOIR CONCERTS AND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL'S SENIOR GRADUATION CEREMONY

UPCOMING LIVE STREAMS:

- BEGINNING APRIL 23RD: CHS BASEBALL PLAYOFFS VS TBD
- *MAY 18TH: CHS CLASS OF 2026 GRADUATION CEREMONY

(BEFORE DATE, DENOTES NON-SPORTING EVENT)*

SPEND YOUR SUMMMER AT CHS

Visit
https://www.catholichigh.org/quicklinks/summeratchs
for more information.

BASEBALL

Baseball 2001
1st-4th grade
June 1st-4th

Baseball 2002
4th-6th grade
June 8th-11th

Baseball 2003
1st-6th grade
June 15th-18th

Baseball Metro League
June 2nd-24th (Tues/Wed)

BASKETBALL

Basketball 3001
1st-4th grade
June 1st-4th

Basketball 3002
4th-8th grade
June 8th-11th

Basketball 3003
5th-8th grade
June 15th-18th

FOOTBALL

June

Middle School Lineman Camp 4001
June 3rd-4th

Middle School Football Skills Camp 4002
June 3rd-4th

Flag Football 4001
1st-5th grade
June 15th-18th

FOOTBALL

July

Football Specialist Camp 4006
July 11th

Football Tackling Clinic 4004
July 29th

Quarterback School 4005
July 27th-29th

LACROSSE

Lacrosse Camp
May 26th-29th

POWERLIFTING

Powerlifting Camp
June 1st-4th

SOCCER

Soccer 7001
4th-8th grade
June 1st-4th

Soccer 7002
1st-4th grade
June 8th-11th

TRACK

Track & Field 8001
1st-4th grade
June 22nd-25th

Track & Field 8003
5th-8th grade
June 29th-July 2nd

Pole Vault Camp
8002 and 8004



BASEBALL BEARS UPDATE

The CHS baseball team recently wrapped up the district 4-5A title with a 4-0 victory over Zachary and finished the season with an overall record of 29-5. Some recent highlights were two combined no-hitters this past month, as on April 9, senior Lucas Lawrence, an Ole Miss signee, and sophomore Reis Wascom combined for a no-hitter in a 12-1 win against Zachary. The other was on March 31 when juniors Jason DeCuir and Tyler Denicola did it in a 9-0 win against St. Martin's Episcopal, with DeCuir having 13 strikeouts in the first 6 innings. Another recent highlight was on April 7 against Woodlawn when the Bears scored 12 runs in the first inning alone, en route to a 17-1 win. The Bears, seeking a third straight state championship, earned the No. 2 overall seed in the LHSAA Division 1 Select playoffs and a first-round bye, where they will face St. Augustine in a best 2-of-3 series beginning on April 23.



BEACH LEAGUE CHAMPS

OUR BEACH VOLLEYBALL BEARS WON THE NEW ORLEANS BEACH VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP AFTER FINISHING THE SEASON WITH A 4-2 RECORD. IN THE PHOTO ABOVE (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) CALE ALEXANDER 26', ALEX WILLIAMS 28', COLLIN TERRITO 28', GRANT POLITZ 26', MICHAEL SCHOEN 28', AND AUSTIN DUVIC 26'. THESE PLAYERS SWEPT JESUIT 3-0 IN THE FINALS. AFTER 3 YEARS OF HARD WORK AND EFFORT, THE BEARS FINALLY BROKE THROUGH AND BROUGHT HOME OUR VERY FIRST PROGRAM CHAMPIONSHIP.

COACH JOE DAVID WILKERSON: " BEING THE ONLY BATON ROUGE SCHOOL AND NEWEST PROGRAM IN THE LEAGUE, IT WAS VINDICATING. IT FELT BITTERSWEET – SAD TO PART WAYS WITH SENIORS WHO WERE WITH US FOR THE LAST 3-4 YEARS, BUT HAPPY FOR OUR GUYS TO END THEIR SEASON ON A GREAT NOTE. I'M PROUD OF OUR GUYS AND CONSIDER THEM TRAILBLAZERS FOR A SPORT THAT I HOPE WILL BECOME A PART OF EVERY SCHOOL IN THE BATON ROUGE AREA."



FISHING UPDATE

THE FISHING TEAM COMPETED IN THREE TOURNAMENTS THROUGHOUT THE STATE THIS PAST MONTH. THE FIRST TOURNAMENT WAS ON MARTH 14TH AT CANEY LAKE IN CHATHAM, LOUISIANA. PARTNERS GREY TRAXLER '26 AND TANNER MILLER '26 GRABBED A 4TH PLACE FINISH FOR THE BEARS WITH AN 18.72-POUND FIVE-FISH BAG. ANGLERS ELIJAH CHUSTZ '28 AND PORTER MORRISON '26 FISHED SOLO AND MANAGED TO SECURE TWO TOP THIRTY FINISHES. WITH THESE TOP THREE BAGS, THE BEARS TOOK HOME SECOND PLACE OVERALL TEAM OF THE TOURNAMENT. THE FISHING BEARS NEXT STOP ON APRIL 11TH AND 12TH WAS A TWO-DAY TOURNAMENT AT LAKE DARBONNE IN FARMERVILLE, LOUISIANA. ON A TOUGH SATURDAY, PARTNERS KADE JEANSON '29 AND JAMES MOREIN '29 FOUND THEIR WAY TO THE TOP THIRTY-FIVE, WEIGHING IN 5.39-POUND BAG WITH TWO FISH. ON SUNDAY, VETERAN ANGLERS GREY TRAXLER '26 AND TANNER MILLER '26 NETTED A FIVE-FISH LIMIT FOR A TOTAL OF 9.72 POUNDS TO END THE SEASON STRONG. NEXT UP IS THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP ON MAY 2ND AND 3RD AT DOIRON'S LANDING IN PIERRE PART, LOUISIANA. ALSO, CONGRATULATIONS TO ANGELR PORTER MORRISSON FOR RECENTLY COMMTTING TO THE LSU BASS FISHING TEAM.





Captain of the Clipboards

COACH: DERRICK JONES '96
SPORT COACHED: BASKETBALL

COACH DERRICKJONES IS THE HEAD COACH OF THE CHS BASKETBALL TEAM. HE IS IN HIS 5TH YEAR OF COACHING CHS BASKETBALL. COACH JONES IS A CHS GRADUATE OF THE CLASS OF '96. HE HAS WON 1 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP AS THE CHS COACH AND 3 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS IN HIS ENTIRE COACHING CAREER. HE ALSO COACHED AT PORT ALLEN HIGH, BEFORE HIS TIME AT CATHOLIC, WHERE HE WON THE OTHER 2 STATE TITLES. COACH JONES IS KNOWN BY PLAYERS AS A GREAT ROLE MODEL AND MENTOR. HE IS KNOWN FOR HIS PASSION AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE GAME, HAVING LED THIS YEAR'S TEAM TO THE SEMI-FINALS OF THE LHSAA DIVISION I SELECT PLAYOFFS.

1. **WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS FROM THIS PAST SEASON?**

"I AM VERY PROUD OF THE RESILIENCE AND GROWTH THAT OUR TEAM SHOWED THIS PAST SEASON. WE HAD TREMENDOUS LEADERSHIP FROM OUR 5 SENIORS THAT SET THE TONE FOR OUR SUCCESS IN THE PLAYOFFS AND HELPED US COMPETE ALL SEASON WITH ELITE PROGRAMS ACROSS THE STATE.

2. **WHAT THEME DID THIS TEAM FOLLOW DURING THIS SEASON?**

"OUR THEME THIS SEASON WAS SACRIFICE. BEING A PART OF A CHAMPIONSHIP CALIBER TEAM INVOLVES GREAT SACRIFICE AND HUMILITY. AS THE SEASON PROGRESSED, OUR PLAYERS REALLY BOUGHT INTO THE IDEA OF PLAYING FOR EACH OTHER AND NOT FOR THEMSELVES."

3. **IF YOU WERE PLAYING IN THE NBA, WHICH TRAIT WOULD YOU HAVE? VICTOR WEMBANYAMA'S HEIGHT OR STEPH CURRY'S 3PT SHOOTING?**

"IF I WERE PLAYING IN TODAY'S NBA, I WOULD MOST DEFINITELY TAKE STEPH'S SHOOTING ABILITY OVER WEMBY'S HEIGHT BECAUSE SHOOTING IS SUCH A VALUED COMMODITY IN TODAY'S GAME. THERE ARE COUNTLESS EXAMPLES OF PLAYERS THAT ARE EXTREMELY TALL, BUT THEY AREN'T GOOD PLAYERS. I'VE NEVER MET AN ELITE SHOOTER THAT COULDN'T PLAY."

FINISHING STRONG!

Lacrosse – The CHS Lacrosse team is entering the first game of the playoffs this weekend, looking to defeat archrivals Jesuit and advance to the Quarterfinals LHSSL League playoffs.

Tennis – The Tennis team will look to capture their 15th straight Regional Championship Monday, April 20. Should they advance, they will compete for the state title April 30.

Track -The Outdoor Track & Field team's regular season came to a close this past Thursday. They will compete at the district and regional meets this week with the state championship taking place on May 7th as they look to capture their 4th team title in 5 years.

Baseball – Baseball earned the 2 seed and a first round bye for the upcoming state playoffs. They will face off against 15 seed St. Augustine at home in a three-game series this weekend.

Golf - Coming off of their first state championship since 2007, the golf team just captured their sixth straight metro championship. They will look to advance through the district and regional competition over the coming weeks for a shot at the state title on May 4th and 5th.

Jonathon Thompson- Track & Cross Country



