The Prep '62 Times

November 24, 2014



Late Edition
25 CENTS



Dennis James scores a touchdown against Bergen Catholic during 1st quarter football action in the NJSIAA Non Public Group 4 semifinal

Football Monday

STATE FINALS SCHEDULE FRIDAY, DEC. 5 AT METLIFE STADIUM EAST RUTHERFORD

North Jersey, Section 1, Non-Public Group 4

Paramus Catholic vs. St. Peter's Prep 8:00 PM

Football Top 20, Week 12: No. 1 St. Peter's Prep, No. 2 Paramus Catholic to collide in Non-Public, Group 4 final

By James Kratch | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com on November 23, 2014 6:27 p.m

WOODBRIDGE — In 13 days, it will be No. 1 against No. 2 at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford.

After winning their state semifinal round games on Saturday, both top-ranked **St. Peter's Prep** and now-No. 2 **Paramus Catholic** will finally meet on Friday, Dec. 5 in what will be a whale of a Non-Public, Group 4 final at the Meadowlands.

The two powerhouse programs sit atop this week's new poll after a wild weekend that saw several landscape-shifting results, **chiefly now-No. 4 Red Bank Catholic's stunning 44-14 win over St. Joseph of Montvale in the Non-Public, Group 3 semifinals** on Friday night and **Paramus Catholic's miraculous come-from-behind 18-17 win over Don Bosco Prep** in its semifinal round.

With the losses, St. Joseph has fallen to No. 9 in the state, while Don Bosco Prep fell out of the top 10 to No. 11. Bergen Catholic, **which lost to St. Peter's Prep to conclude its season**, comes in at No. 7 this week.

Complete coverage of St. Peter's Prep's 31-14 victory over Bergen Catholic

By Braulio Perez | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com on November 22, 2014 10:52 p.m.

It most likely wasn't the way **St. Peter's Prep** head coach Rich Hansen drew it up, but his Maruaders took down Bergen Catholic 31-14 on Saturday night, earning a berth to the Non-Public, Group 4 championship game at MetLife Stadium on Dec. 5.

Things didn't look good for the Marauders, who were down 14-10 at halftime, but they made the plays necessary in the second half to come out on top. In case you weren't at Cochrane Stadium, we've got you covered.

Jersey City comeback kids? Big second half leads St. Peter's Prep past Bergen Catholic 31-14

By Braulio Perez | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com on November 22, 2014 10:17 p.m.

JERSEY CITY- You could have heard a pin drop in the **St. Peter's Prep** stands at halftime on Saturday night. Down **14-10**, Bergen Catholic had stunned those on hand at Cochrane Stadium, intercepting Marauders' quarterback **Brandon Wimbush** three times in the first **24** minutes.



The Notre Dame commit entered the game with one pick on the whole season. But, in the



second half, Wimbush and the rest of the Marauders rebounded in a monstrous way, outscoring the Crusaders 21-0 to capture a 31-14 semifinals victory.

With the win, St. Peter's Prep has set up a second-straight meeting with Paramus Catholic in the Non-Public, Group 4 finals of the NJSIAA/Sports Care Institute Football State Tournament.

That rematch will take place thanks to a brilliant second half performance from Wimbush, **Minkah Fitzpatrick** and the defense. Wimbush and Fitzpatrick connected on

three second-half touchdowns, including a 42-yarder with 6:41 left in the third quarter to give the Marauders a 16-14 advantage.

Just 2:21 later, after Bergen Catholic went three-and-out, Wimbush hit Fitzpatrick for a 44-yard score. The icing on the cake came with 15.9 seconds left in the third. Wimbush evaded a pair of Crusader defenders and fired off a bomb down the field in Fitzpatrick's direction and 64 yards later, St. Peter's Prep closed the scoring at 31-14.

"I just didn't make the right reads, but I made the adjustments in the second half," Wimbush said. "My receivers came out here and they made plays."

On the evening, Wimbush was 25-of-39 for 430 yards, with four touchdown passes and the three interceptions. In the first half, he opened up the scoring by hitting wide receiver Dennis James for a 44-yard strike with 9:03 left in the first quarter. As for Fitzpatrick? The future Alabama defensive back finished with nine receptions for a mind-boggling 274 yards.

On defense, the Marauders shut out the Crusaders in the second half, consistently putting heavy pressure on Bergen Catholic quarterback Corey Gaarn. Linebacker **Jordan Fox** had a pair of big sacks, while defensive end **Cheyenn Robertson** was plugging up holes with passion. In addition, defensive back **D'won Walker** added a late interception for the Marauders to help seal the deal.

With the win, the showdown local football fans have been hoping for has been set for Dec. 5. It's St. Peter's Prep vs. Paramus Catholic in a clash of New Jersey football Titans at MetLife Stadium. Last season, the Paladins came out on top. This year, though, St. Peter's Prep head man Rich Hansen wants to make sure there's a different ending.

"It's great to be back in the state championship," Hansen said. "The fact that it's PC, it is what it is. We need to stay focused. They earned it last year and they deserved it, but we're ready for our shot to make it right."



Bergen Catholic at St. Peter's Prep

Sat, Nov. 22, 2014, 12:00 a.m.

Team	1	2	3	4	Final
Bergen Catholic	7	7	0	0	14
St. Peter's Prep	7	3	21	0	31

SCORING & STATS

FINAL

1st: St. Peter's Prep: Dennis James 44 pass from Brandon Wimbush (Tyler Martino kick)

1st: Bergen Catholic: Gene Coleman 9 run (kick)

2nd: St. Peter's Prep: FG Ryan Hernandez 28

2nd: Bergen Catholic: Corey Russo 1 run (kick)

3rd: St. Peter's Prep: Minkah Fitzpatrick 42 pass from Brandon Wimbush (kick failed)

3rd: St. Peter's Prep: Minkah Fitzpatrick 44 pass from Brandon Wimbush (Ryan Hernandez

kick)

3rd: St. Peter's Prep: Minkah Fitzpatrick 64 pass from Brandon Wimbush (Brandon Wimbush

run)

St. Peter's Prep

PLAYER	COMP	ATT	YDS	TD	INT
Jonathan Lewis	-	1	-	-	-
Brandon Wimbush	25	39	430	4	3

St. Peter's Prep

PLAYER	REC	YDS	AVG	TD
Corey Caddle	4	43	10.8	-
Minkah Fitzpatrick	9	274	30.4	3
KJ Gray	4	24	6	-
Kolton Huber	2	16	8	-
Dennis James	6	73	12.2	1

THE NJ.COM TOP 20 FOR SUNDAY, NOV. 23

(first place votes in parentheses)

1-ST. PETER'S PREP (10-1) (5) 100 POINTS

Last week: 1.

St. Peter's Prep trailed 14-10 at halftime on Saturday night, but outscored Bergen Catholic 21-0 in the second half to capture a 31-14 semifinals victory. Brandon Wimbush had over 500 total yards of offense and four touchdowns. Receiver Minkah Fitzpatrick hauled in nine receptions for 274 yards and three scores.

Next: Dec. 5 vs. No. 2 Paramus Catholic in Non-Public, Group 4 final at MetLife Stadium.

2-PARAMUS CATHOLIC (9-1) 92

Last week: 2.

Willy Hansen threw a 12-yard touchdown to Marquis Spence with 22 seconds remaining to cap a drama-filled, two-minute drive and give the Paladins an 18-17 victory over Don Bosco Prep. Paramus Catholic will now be playing in its third straight Non-Public, Group 4 final.

Next: Friday, Dec. 5 vs. No. 1 St. Peter's Prep in Non-Public, Group 4 final.

7-BERGEN CATHOLIC (8-3) 75

Last week: 4.

The Crusaders had three first-half interceptions, led St. Peter's Prep at the break but surrendered 21 unanswered in the third quarter, ending its resurgent season in Jersey City. The school from Oradell, however, earned a share of the Big North United Division title with thrilling victories over St. Joseph (Mont.) and Don Bosco Prep.

Next: Season is complete.

Monday quarterback: Wait a second, Brandon Wimbush did what?

By Braulio Perez | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com on November 24, 2014 11:20 a.m.

During St. Peter's Prep's 31-14 victory over Bergen Catholic on Saturday night, quarterback Brandon Wimbush had a first half to forget, throwing one touchdown, but three interceptions. The second half, though, was a completely different story. The future Notre Dame signal caller threw three touchdowns, all to Minkah Fitzpatrick, but none were bigger than his final strike of the night.



On that play, with the score 23-14 Marauders, St. Peter's Prep had the rock at their own 34-yard line. Wimbush took a three-step drop, looked downfield and fired off a deep ball to Fitzpatrick.

Now, this wasn't an ordinary throw. The 6-2, 220-pounder released the ball from the 31-yard line and Fitzpatrick caught it at the five, before jogging into the end zone.

The ball traveled 64-yards in the air and is being debated as the longest throw in high school history. The ball was so nice, Fitzpatrick was still left in awe on Monday morning.



On the night, Wimbush finished with 430 passing yards and 98 rushing yards. He and his Maruaders will face Paramus

Catholic at 8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 5, for the Non-Public, Group 4 championship.

You've **GOT** to see the video of Brandon's incredible throw!!

It's captured here in from a couple of different angles:

http://bit.ly/1xto1gk



St. Peter's Prep receiver Dennis James showed he's a playmaker on Saturday night

By Braulio Perez | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com on November 23, 2014 11:30 a.m.

Having so many offensive weapons, there's times that a player or two on St. Peter's Prep might not get the love or attention as others. But on Saturday night, in the **Maruaders' 31-14 victory over Bergen Catholic** in the Non-Public, Group 4 semifinals of the NJSIAA/Sports Care Institute Football State Tournament, receiver **Dennis James** broke out in a big way.

The senior finished the night with six receptions for 73 yards, highlighted by a 44-yard touchdown reception with 9:03 left in the first quarter to put the Maruaders up 7-0. On that play, James blew by a defensive back and hauled in a bomb from quarterback **Brandon Wimbush**. Throughout the night, James made several big catches for his team when a play needed to be made.

"We have a lot of weapons and it opens the offense up for all of the guys to make plays," James said. "We're all one, but there's so many different guys that can do different things out on the field. It's a lot of fun for us."

James said him and starting quarterback Brandon Wimbush have been on the same page not just throughout the season, but also throughout their careers.



Dennis James scores a touchdown against Bergen Catholic during 1st quarter football action in the NJSIAA Non Public Group 4 semifinal

"Brandon (Wimbush) and I have had great chemistry ever since our freshman year," James said. "We've had a great bond from the start. He's a great guy and he's really upped my game as a receiver. He's made me love the game of football."

Following the 31-14 win on Saturday, the Marauders are just one win away from capturing the state championship. Standing in their way is Paramus Catholic, but the offense is ready to show the Paladins what they're made of on Dec. 5.

"We have a lot of talent and speed and our line did great tonight," James said. "I know this team is going to be great next year as well. Right now, we're excited and we just have to focus, keep on working hard and get ourselves ready for the next game."

Headed to the Iron Bowl: Minkah Fitzpatrick books his official visit to Alabama for next weekend

By Braulio Perez | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com on November 23, 2014 9:50 a.m.

It's a rivalry that dates back to Feb. 22, 1893. Next Saturday, Nov. 29, Auburn and Alabama will face off in the annual Iron Bowl, a game that is recognized nationally as one of the top rivalries in college football.

And on that day, **St. Peter's Prep** cornerback **Minkah Fitzpatrick** will be one of the estimated 100,000 people in attendance. Fitzpatrick, who committed to Alabama in April, informed NJ.com following the Marauders' **31-14 victory over Bergen Catholic** on Saturday evening that he'll be taking his official visit to Tuscaloosa to catch the SEC powers go to battle.

"I'm going to be going down there for the Auburn game," Fitzpatrick said. "That's this next weekend coming up.

"Man, I'm pumped up for this one. It's the Iron Bowl, so you know they're (Alabama) going to be energized and they'll go out and play hard."



Fitzpatrick, **rated the No. 8 cornerback** in the country by Scout.com, is no stranger to Tuscaloosa. He's had glowing things to say about the Alabama campus throughout his recruitment, but having the chance to see his Crimson Tide take on Auburn has him anxious to hop on a plane next week.

Currently, Alabama is ranked the No. 2 team in the country, while Auburn is No. 16. You can expect the stadium to be absolutely rocking all 60 minutes of play.

"I've been there a bunch a bunch of times," Fitzpatrick said. "I think this is my fifth or sixth time going, but this is my actual official visit. I'm really excited to get there. I know the coaches won't be able to be with me that much because it's such a big game, so it's more about being with the players and having the great game day experience."

Fitzpatrick added that he spoke with members of the Alabama staff on Saturday to confirm his visit. The Crimson Tide coaches also helped pump him up for the showdown against the Crusaders, he said.

Fitzpatrick finished the game with nine receptions for 274 yards and three touchdowns, helping his team erase a 14-10 halftime deficit to advance to the Non-Public, Group 4 finals vs. Paramus Catholic at MetLife Stadium on Dec. 5.

	C)	2014-	2015 SEASON 😕				
		#1	Walker, D'won	FS	SR	6'0"	180lbs
	H	#2	Thomas, Ahmad	СВ	SR	5'9"	178lbs
		#3	Plaza, Daniel	FS/RB	SR	5'8"	184lbs
		#4	James, Dennis	WR/FS	SR	6'3"	180lbs
		#5	Gray, KJ	WR/CB	JR	6'2"	190lbs
		#5	Walker, Dwon	WR/FS	SR	6'1"	175lbs
		#6	Boykin, Sa'id	RB/CB	JR	5'8"	180lbs
•		#7	Wimbush, Brandon	QB/FS	SR	6'2"	210lbs
		#8	Robertson, Cheyenn	TE/OLB	SR	6'3"	225lbs
		#9	Kovacs, Tyler	OLB/QB	SR	5'11"	195lbs
		#10	Huber, Kolton	WR/SS	JR	6'1"	192lbs
		#11	Lewis, Johnathan	QB/SS	SO	6'2"	200lbs
		#12	Armwood III, John	QB/CB	JR	5'9"	184lbs
		#13	Reaves, Eddie	FS/SS	JR	5'11"	163lbs
		#14	Cunningham, Brendan	TE/MLB	JR	6'1"	195lbs
		#15	Fox, Jordan	OLB	SR	6'3"	217lbs
		#16	Popovich, Brendan	WR/SS	JR	6'0"	175lbs
		#17	Sabia, Anthony	-	SR	5'9"	175lbs
		#18	Hester, Michael	WR/FS	JR	6'2"	155lbs
		#20	Caddle, Corey	RB/CB	SR	5'9"	175lbs
		#21	Fitzpatrick, Minkah	CB/WR/RB	SR	6'0"	196lbs
		#22	Abrams, Damion	RB/MLB	SO	5'9"	195lbs
		#23	Aldarondo, Richard	FB/MLB	JR	5'7"	164lbs

#24	Perez, Dean	OLB/WR	SR	6'2"	210lbs
#25	Martino, Tyler	RB/CB	SR	5'5"	170lbs
#26	Portorreal, Jorge	RB/WR/CB	SO	5'8"	150lbs
#27	Kennedy, Michael	RB/CB	SR	5'8"	180lbs
#29	James, Isaiah	OLB/TE	JR	6'1"	215lbs
#30	Burk, Austin	RB/CB	JR	5'10"	160lbs
#31	Strickland, Miles	OLB/TE	JR	6'0"	225lbs
#32	Mirlas, Jacob	RB/MLB	SO	5'8"	170lbs
#33	Francullo, Jordan	WR/FS	JR	5'9"	150lbs
#34	Helstowski, Dean	FB/MLB	SO	5'10"	185lbs
#35	Bedell, Luke	RB/CB	JR	5'8"	160lbs
#37	Stokes, Peter	WR/FS	SO	5'11"	175lbs
#38	VanWinkle, Dave	FB/MLB	JR	5'10"	215lbs
#39	St. VII, Alijah	RB/CB	SO	5'8"	195lbs
#39	Staniszewski, Tristian	WR/CB	SR	5'10"	170lbs
#41	Blassingame, Jordan	WR/CB	SO	5'9"	140lbs
#42	Mowatt, Benji	QB/FS	SO	6'0"	190lbs
#43	Beckwith, Keillor	К	SR	-	-
#44	McLaughlin, Luca	FB/MLB	JR	5'6"	160lbs
#47	Hernandez, Ryan	К	SR	5'9"	155lbs
#51	Githens, Andrew	T/DT	SR	5'11"	225lbs
#52	Richards, Marc	MLB/FB	SR	6'1"	218lbs
#53	Oliveira, Matt	TE/DE	SR	6'3"	230lbs
#54	Tolentino, Dave	NG/T	SR	6'2"	280lbs
#55	Fennell, Andrew	DE/MLB	SR	6'1"	225lbs

#56	Geissler, Christopher	MLB/FB	SR	6'0"	219lbs
#57	Ademilola, Jayson	G/DE/OLB	FR	6'2"	220lbs
#57	McCauley, Christian	T/DT	SR	-	-
#58	Recio, Freddie	T/DT	JR	6'2"	285lbs
#59	Malki, George	MLB/FB	SR	5'11"	225lbs
#63	Trujillo, Steven	С	SR	6'1"	290lbs
#64	Martin, Alton	MLB/C	SO	5'8"	180lbs
#66	Petrula, Ben	T/DT	SO	6'6"	304lbs
#67	Monteiro, Harley	G/DT	SO	6'0"	230lbs
#69	Desousa, Mike	G/NG	SO	5'6"	215lbs
#70	Khurana, Krishen	G/DT	JR	6'0"	245lbs
#77	Palomino, Jose	T/DT	SR	6'3"	290lbs
#78	Brentjens, Jan	T/DT	SO	6'4"	291lbs
#80	Clarke, Cameron	WR/FS	SO	6'0"	150lbs
#80	McIntryre, Tommy	WR/OLB	JR	-	180lbs
#81	McAndrew, John	RB/SS	SO	5'7"	140lbs
#84	Scagliarini, Adam	OLB/TE	SO	6'2"	210lbs
#85	Pellot, Samuel	TE/DE	SO	6'0"	190lbs
#85	Torres, Anthony	RB/CB	JR	-	-
#88	Aerts, Masaki	WR/FS	SO	6'0"	155lbs
-	Ademilola, Justin	TE/OLB	FR	6'2"	200lbs
-	Burks, Paris	FS/SS/RB	SO	5'8"	147lbs
-	Hodgins, Finn	TE/DE	SO	6'0"	202lbs
-	Simmons, Dashaun	RB/OLB	SO	5'8"	175lbs