



Football Monday



Vindication: Wimbush stars, powers St. Peter's Prep over Paramus Catholic for first state title since 2005

By Braulio Perez | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com
on December 05, 2014 10:47 PM, updated December 06, 2014 12:47 AM

Jersey City is going to be rockin' on Friday evening and for good reason.

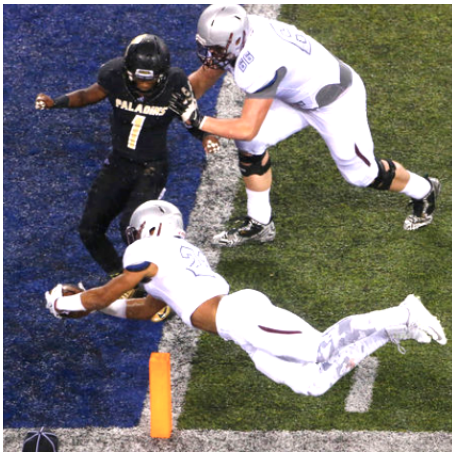
Moments ago, the **St. Peter's Prep** Marauders, No. 1 in The NJ.com Top 20, defeated No. 2 **Paramus Catholic**, 34-18, to capture their first NJSIAA/SportsCare Institute Non-Public, Group 4 championship since 2005.

Entering Friday's duel between the top two teams in New Jersey, coach Rich Hansen said his playmakers needed to come up big in order to knock off the Paladins. Few, however, thought junior **Kolton Huber** would be the one to provide the game-changer of the evening.

With 58 seconds left in the first half and the Marauders up 7-6, Paramus Catholic punter **Shawn Wyzykowski** lined up to punt the ball. Huber exploded off the edge past a Paladin blocker, blocked the punt, snatched it out of the air and took it back 43 yards for a touchdown.



"That was definitely by far the best play of my career," Huber added. "I told Coach Matt Katz (special teams) that if we ran silver block on punt rush, I was going to take it to the house and that's exactly what I did. He asked me to promise him I'd block it and I did it just for him."



Only 1:50 before that big play from Huber, with the Marauders down 6-0, quarterback **Brandon Wimbush** hit **Corey Caddle** for a 14-yard score, putting the Marauders up 7-6 with 2:48 left in the half.

In the first half alone, Wimbush was 12-of-23 for 97 yards and a touchdown. The Notre Dame commit added 99 rushing yards, highlighted by a pair of video-game type runs of 29 yards and 24 yards. For the evening, Wimbush finished with 158 rushing yards on 11 carries, completed 18 passes on 32 attempts for 167 yards through the air, and amassed three touchdowns total.

"This is an unbelievable feeling for us right now," Wimbush said. "Just to be able to capture it all with these guys is special. I wouldn't go out like this and win a state championship with another group of dudes. It's unbelievable and I can't wait to celebrate."

Paramus Catholic got on the board first with 1:29 remaining in the first quarter, when quarterback **Willy Hansen** hit junior receiver **Donald Stewart** for a 64-yard touchdown. On that play, the Paladins, who had been running the ball efficiently, used a play-action pass to freeze the Marauders' defenders, allowing Stewart to break free and catch the deep bomb from Hansen.

The Paladins, who finished the season 9-2, gained plenty of momentum to open up the second half, too. With 5:18 left in the third quarter, Hansen and Stewart hooked up for another long touchdown, this time from 54 yards out. The electric touchdown cut the Paladins' deficit to 14-12, but the extra point went wide right.

After both teams exchanged turnovers, St. Peter's Prep regained the momentum when Wimbush hit **Minkah Fitzpatrick** for an 18-yard touchdown to make things 21-12 Marauders. On that play, they set up a screen, and Fitzpatrick, an Alabama commit, tight-roped the sideline and dove full extension into the end zone for six.

"I felt that touchdown helped give our team an extra boost," Fitzpatrick said. "As soon as I caught the ball, all I thought about was scoring. That was my final touchdown pass from Brandon and it was a great experience."



Following that drive by St. Peter's Prep, Paramus Catholic drove down the field, but Caddle forced a fumble of Paladins' running back **Ahmad Thomas**, giving the Marauders the ball back at their own 37 with 32 seconds left in the third quarter.

Then, 43 seconds later, Wimbush added his third touchdown of the night, rushing up the middle 63 yards to give the Marauders a 28-12 lead. Caddle added a one-yard touchdown run with 10:16, putting St. Peter's Prep up 34-12 (PAT blocked). The Paladins added a late touchdown, when Hansen hit Marquis Spence for a 44-yard score. However, a D'won Walker interception with less than a minute left sealed the deal for the Marauders.

The lights of MetLife Stadium shined bright on the St. Peter's Prep players on the NFL logo on the 50 yard line. It was a moment they had been dreaming off since they were young boys. They could finally call themselves state champions.

"I can't say enough about these guys," Hansen said. "They've bought into everything and they're great players, but first off, they're great kids. This is probably my most enjoyable year in the 33 years (27 as head coach) I've been doing this. We had great leadership this year and they just never stopped believing. I'm just so proud of them right now."



So is Marauder Nation.

St. Peter's Prep gets payback in sectional championship vs Paramus with healthy Brandon Wimbush

By Yueh Ho | The Jersey Journal

on December 06, 2014 2:50 AM, updated December 06, 2014 10:38 AM

Last season, **Brandon Wimbush** missed the entire second half of St. Peter's Prep's sectional championship against Paramus with a concussion. This year, having Wimbush for the entire game proved to be the difference as St. Peter's Prep defeated **Paramus Catholic** 34-18 in the NJSIAA Non-Public, Group 4 sectional championship at MetLife Stadium.



“He’s been doing it so many ways, you know, for so long, it’s just nothing he done amazes me or surprises me because we see him every day you know,” said St. Peter’s Prep head coach Rich Hansen. “I feel sorry for the people who don’t coach him who have to wait until weekends to watch him.”

He made several great plays with his arm, but his legs proved to be the difference for the usually stout Paramus defense. As the pocket collapsed, Wimbush took off, with no one on the Paladins able to catch him. In the first half alone, he had 7 carries for 99 yards.

Wimbush’s play of the game was a 63 yard touchdown run to start the fourth quarter. Seeing a hole, he accelerated through it, breaking two tackles in the process. Two Paladin defenders tried to catch him and he shook them off while dancing into the end zone for score.

As Wimbush missed the second half of last year’s game with a concussion, he seemed to be extra motivated in this game to atone for the team’s shortcoming in 2013. That desire showed on the field.



“It was unspoken, but I gotta be honest with you, especially from Brandon you know it was in there,” Hansen said. “He felt he let everybody down last year.” “whatever fires him up fires him up.”

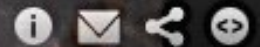
Irish Jig: Watch stop-motion video Notre Dame commit Brandon Wimbush dance his way to head-turning TD run

By Patrick Lanni | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com
on December 06, 2014 12:27 AM, updated December 06, 2014 9:49 AM

Two spins, four broken tackles and 64 yards later, Brandon Wimbush danced his way into the end zone for a head-turning score that all but solidified a championship for St. Peter's Prep.

Check out the stop-motion video of Wimbush's run above and see what people had to say as the future Notre Dame signal caller wowed MetLife Stadium Friday night.

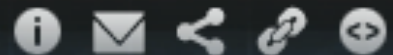
Stop Motion sequence of Brandon Wimbush's 63-yard touchdown run...



<http://bit.ly/1ABx2rm>

Below is the full motion video of that run.

Brandon Wimbush scores on an incredible 6...



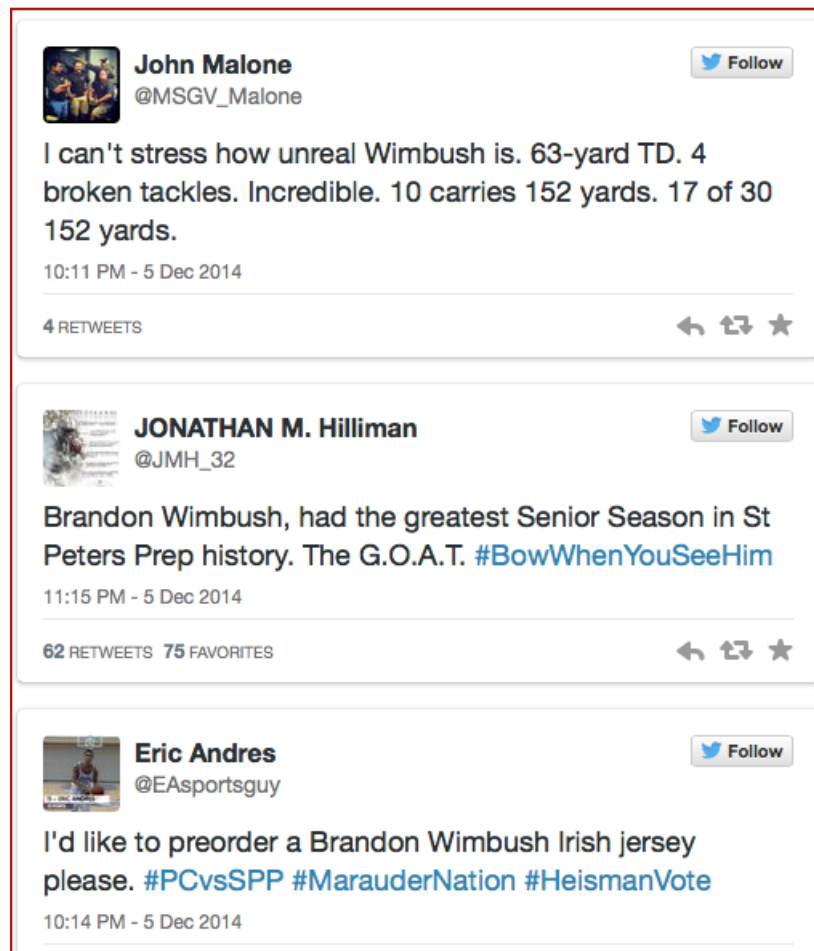
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Class of '62 Tweet to Brandon Wimbush congratulating him after the victory.



Brandon retweeted (forwarded) our message to his 4,673 followers



Video: Highlights of St. Peter's Prep's 34-18 championship victory over Paramus Catholic

By Braulio Perez | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com
on December 06, 2014 12:41 AM

The electric plays were displayed throughout the night in **St. Peter's Prep's 34-18 victory over Paramus Catholic** on Friday night. This included **Brandon Wimbush's 63-yard TD run, Kolton Huber's punt block for a touchdown** and more.



<http://bit.ly/1ypVU7o>

Didn't make it to MetLife on Friday night to catch the action? NJ.com has you covered with highlights and player interviews posted in the video above.

Recruiting: Notre Dame is the latest offer for Paramus Catholic junior DL Rashan Gary

By Braulio Perez | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com

Rashan Gary holds more than 40 offers and late last week, he added yet another. The 6-4, 290-pound defensive lineman picked up an offer from the Notre Dame Fighting Irish, **Paramus Catholic** head coach Chris Partridge confirmed with NJ.com on Monday. Gary, who stars on the defensive line for the Paladins, was among the top defensive players in the Garden State in 2014.

The junior prospect finished with 50-plus tackles and 13 sacks this season. His campaign was highlighted by a **six-sack performance vs. Bergen Catholic** on Oct. 4. Gary holds offers from Alabama, Florida, Florida State, Ole Miss, Miami, Michigan, Michigan State, Notre Dame, Rutgers, USC, Wisconsin and many others.

He is ranked the **No. 2 prospect on the NJ.com Top 50 list**. He is also rated by five stars and the **No. 1 player in the country for the 2016 class** by scout.com.

Brandon's future teammate???



FITZPATRICK DONE WITH OFFICIAL VISITS



JOHN GARCIA JR.

Recruiting Analyst

This story was originally published on BamaMag.com.

Alabama hosted more than a half-dozen official visitors over Iron Bowl weekend, including one of its highest-rated commitments in Minkah Fitzpatrick. He was in town longer than the 48 hours with family nearby, though it wasn't tough for him to isolate the best part of the trip.

The first Iron Bowl for Minkah Fitzpatrick lived up to the hype on Saturday. Amid fans recognizing the *Scout* 100 cornerback projection and Alabama commitment, he took in a game he won't soon forget.

"It was a great experience to be a part of such a big rivalry," he said. "It was a lot of fun the entire weekend, the fans were great, the players were great and the coaches were great.

"That game day experience was crazy, I've never experienced anything like that."

Spending time with several commitments while in Tuscaloosa, it was the Jersey City (N.J.) St. Peter's Prep star's first chance to do so since competing with and against many at Nike's The Opening over the summer.

“We all have a good relationship with each other,” he said. “Blake Barnett is sort of the leader, he’s the funniest, too. But we’ve been talking to a lot of guys and did this weekend. Everybody is working on each other. Damien Harris and Ricky DeBerry were in this weekend for officials, so we were seeing how it went with them a little bit.

“When I see somebody I know the team needs, I talk to them about ‘Bama, tell them all the good stuff and answer any questions they have. We need both of them and will be more than happy to add both of them.”

The 6-foot-1, 194-pound Fitzpatrick (No. 21, above among official visitor group), who also plays wide receiver, running back and returns kicks for the Marauders, spent time with the three Alabama coaches he’s most familiar with while in town, too.



“It was good to sit down with Coach (Nick) Saban, Coach (Kirby) Smart, Coach (Mario) Cristobal, before the game and after the game,” he said. “I talked to them about my future at the school, my family and a whole bunch of different things. They just talked about their vision of me at the school.

“The plan right now is to play defensive back, nickel corner, or safety, or the money position. One of those few positions. But if they need me at receiver, and ask me to play receiver, I’ll be more than happy to do it. Wherever I’m needed, that’s where I’ll play.”



The flexibility of Alabama’s scheme is another factor that helps the Tide in the race to hold onto one of its top commitments , and the nearby family does as well.

“I got to see my grandmother, that was one great part about the visit,” he said. “It’s a big plus, a security blanket. If I ever need anything, I don’t have to fly a bunch of miles away. I can drive a couple hours down the road for my grandmother and other members of my family.”

Currently a “soft verbal” because of an earlier official visit to Florida State, Fitzpatrick says the Tuscaloosa trip will be the final official visit on his slate.

“At this point, I probably won’t be visiting another school officially,” he said. “I had a great visit to Alabama, I’m still solid with Alabama.”

Fitzpatrick is the No. 67 overall prospect in the class of 2015.

Related Story: Listen to Fitzpatrick’s full interview

Scout Spotlight: Minkah Fitzpatrick

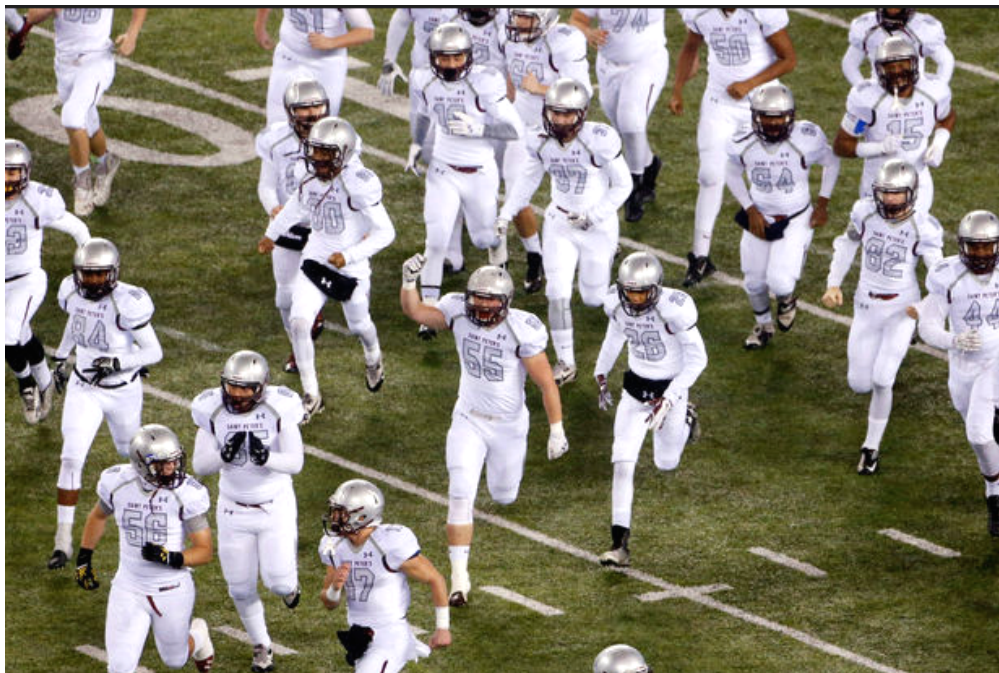


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2014-2015 SEASON

	#1	Walker, D'won	FS	SR	6'0"	180lbs
	#2	Thomas, Ahmad	CB	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, Aljah	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	K	SR	-	-
	#44	McLaughlin, Luca	FB/MLB	JR	5'6"	160lbs
	#47	Hernandez, Ryan	K	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	C	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	McIntyre, 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