

“Pride of Methacton”
Warrior Athletics – March Celebrations
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The “Pride of Methacton” newsletter is a monthly publication which delivers to our schools and community updates on the commendable achievements of our athletic programs and milestones reached by individual athletes. Please enjoy this installment of the “Pride of Methacton”, which focuses its attention on an introduction into our spring sports season.

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Methacton Boys Tennis:

Head Coach: Jill Walker (5th season)

2015 Record: 9-0 PAC-10 (league champion for 2nd straight year), 15-1 overall

Key losses to graduation: 1st singles Ryan Hamilton, 3rd singles Kevin Wichert, 2nd Doubles Partner Ajay Benno

Returning players

Subhanik Purkayastha 11th grade - #1 singles (finished 3rd in the league in 2015)
Nick Simeone 12th grade - #2 Singles (played 1st doubles 2015, first year at singles)
Hari Santhanam 12 grade - #3 Singles (moving up from 2nd doubles to 3rd singles)
Debanik Purkayastha 12th grade – Doubles with a new partner this season
Alan Shen 11th grade – Doubles – was undefeated in the 2015 season with partner Matt Zhang (they will stay together as a doubles team but will be moving up in the ladder this season)
Matt Zhang 11th grade – Doubles (same as Alan Shen above)
Krishna Suraesh 10 grade – Doubles (was our only varsity freshmen player last season. He will be partnered with a new partner this season)

Coach's comments/season outlook: "I definitely look forward to a competitive and fun 5th season with the Warriors. Our 2015 season will be hard to repeat but we certainly look forward to trying. We have a solid string of players returning however every single person will be playing in a new position and getting a different experience. We have had the strongest crew of freshmen come into the program in the 5 years I have been coaching the team. A lot of them are brothers of older players and show a lot of future potential. You will get to see some of them in varsity positions this season."

Methacton Girls Lacrosse:

Head coach: Laurie Markle, 10th season

2015 Record: 10-3 PAC-10 (2nd in Liberty Division), 15-6 overall

2015 Postseason: Reached PAC-10 final with 14-11 win over Phoenixville before dropping an 11-10 decision to Owen J. Roberts in league championship; edged by Hatboro-Horsham 14-13 in opening round of districts

Key losses to graduation: Sam Rothman (goalie), Casey Reid, Jess McNally

Key returnees/players to watch

Deb Peifer, Sr., Attack, 21g, 9a; Manhattan (co-captain)
Sara Hughes, Sr., Attack, 74g, 22a; St. Joseph's (co-captain)
Jackie Cerchio, Jr., Midfield, 47g, 25a (Temple Commit)
Dara Lucchesi, Midfield, 46g, 10a (JMU Commit)
Coach's season outlook:

Season Outlook: We have a very exciting team this year and one that I hope will produce with the promise that is shows. We have a nice group of young and experienced players and our attack has a lot of different feature in it that we have not had before. We have an experienced defense led by Katie Markle and Julia Cook who will work to protect our new goaltenders Sara Sterchak and Addy Frey. There is a lot of parity in the league this year so the competition will be tough but we are looking forward to an exciting year.

Methacton Boys Lacrosse:

Head Coach: Nathanael Ryan (7th Season)

2015 Record 9-9 Regular Season (8-6 PAC-10), Lost in the PAC-10 Semis to league Champ Spring-Ford

Key losses to graduation: Keith White, Jake Blitzler, Michael Del Vecchio, Conner Derrickson, Zach Bodek

Returnees/players to watch:

Aidan Denecke (SR. Captain, Att, 1st Team All-League, committed to RPI), Kyle Derrickson (JR. Captain, Def, 1st Team All-League), Connor Stevenson (SR. Att/Mid), Andrew Benci (SR. Captain, Def), Nick Salerno (SR. Def/LSM), Eric Dietch (SR, Mid), Gill Price (SR, Mid) Ryan O'Toole (JR. Mid), Harvey Smith (JR. Goalie) Kyle Kacala (Soph. Att/Mid), Stanley Kolimago (Soph. Mid)

Coach's comments/season outlook: Our 2016 Team returns lots of starting experience at the Attack and Close Defensive position including returning 1st Team All-League players at both spots. A

number of young players last year have really begun to mature and look to make big contributions for us this year. We are working to develop experience in our midfield which was the hardest hit to graduation. We have been blessed with great senior leadership and have an outstanding group of young men in our program.

With our new facilities we've really been afforded more opportunities than ever to develop the talent we have and we are looking forward to the Spring season. We again have a competitive out of league schedule as we open the season with Great Valley (Chesmont), and also include Souderton (SOL), and Harriton (Central League).

Our goals are to put ourselves in a position to reach the PAC-10 Final Four and earn a District 1 Playoff bid. We have a very competitive league and have an exciting challenge in front of us.

League outlook: Our 2016 team again looks to compete for a bid in the PAC-10 final four. After earning the 4th seed last year we are well aware of how competitive our league is for those four spots and welcome the challenge.

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Methacton Softball:

Coach: Cathy Miller- 35th year

Last year's record: 9-9 PAC 11-9 overall

Players to watch: Megan Stauffer Sr. pitcher, Aubrey Seal Soph. pitcher

Key losses to graduation: Amanda Kulp SS (St Joesph's), Rachel Triantafilou LF

Team Outlook: With 7 of 9 starters returning we look to improve on last years record. Solid defense with some timely hitting should get us there.

Methacton Baseball:

Coaches: Paul Spiewak, Jeff Musselman, Ben Yoder, Kerry Williams

2015 Record- 11-9 Overall, 9-9 Conference

Players to watch:

- Ryan Pellicano- Senior Outfielder, 1B
- Dylan Feaster- Senior CF
- David Carr- Senior 2B- .357 OBP
- Dylan Smeyne- Senior 1B, OF- .345 OBP
- Jake Cardarelli- Senior Catcher
- Zach Feaster- Senior 1B/DH
- Patrick O'Neill- Junior SS- .321 AVG, .441 OBP, Verbal to play at Villanova University in 2018
- Demetrio Rodriguez- Sophomore 3B, OF- (.340 AVG, .343 OBP)

Key losses to graduation/injury: T.J. Tornetta (.400 AVG), Nate Harwick (3-1 w/ 1.75 ERA), Wade Henery (.441 AVG, .522 OBP), Andy Faulkner(2-2 w/ 1 save) and Erik Marberger (.318 AVG, .412 OBP)

Season outlook: We feel very confident in our ability to play strong defense and throw strikes. After graduating several outstanding seniors from last year's team, we are inexperienced and unproven at the Varsity level. With that said, the 2016 team is very much looking forward to the challenge of proving to ourselves and to our opponents that we will compete at a high level in one of the toughest baseball conferences in the state of Pennsylvania. While we are very proud of our past success over recent seasons, we are ready to move forward with the 2016 team getting their opportunity to play great baseball for Methacton.

Conference outlook: We hope to compete first and foremost for a 2016 PAC-10 championship. Although our league is very strong and that will be a big challenge for us, our goals have not changed from past seasons. Once the regular season has been completed and a PAC-10 champion has been crowned, we hope to earn the opportunity to compete for a District One title and qualify and compete in the state playoffs.

League Favorite: Spring-Ford

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Methacton Girls Track and Field:

Coaches: Ruth Akintoye, Steve Mahan, Rich Freeman, Charles Graham, Bill Corby

2015 Record- 9-0 (undefeated league record) and PAC-10 Champions

Key losses to graduation: Nicolette Serratore, Jenny Martin, Monica Sauer, Meg Rinella, Aghina Marshall, Kara Steinke, Nura Gouda, Te'jarra Ellis

Athletes to watch:

- Caroline Duffy, Senior
- Kelly Groth, Senior
- Tianna Crippen, Senior
- Rainah Dunham, Jr
- Gianna Fazio, Jr
- Angela Ramsden, Jr
- Lauren Prusacki, Sophomore
- Fallon Brown, Sophomore
- Amy Domenick, Sophomore

Season outlook: With unique athletes in a variety of events, the talent is almost overwhelming this season. We have a strong group of girls that have a great sense of dedication, discipline, and team unity. This season the girls are looking to throw further, jump farther, jump higher, and race faster than they have in the past. These characteristics and goals will pave the way for a successful season.

I encourage you to come to meets and keep checking stats if you want to witness the talented athletes that make up this team.

Methacton Boys Track and Field:

Head Coach: Chris Shaffer, 1st season (Succeeds Christian Stamm)

2014-2015 Record: 6-2-1 PAC-10

Key performers lost: Matt Schultz (Mid Distance), Adam Friend (Pole Vault), Donte Thomas (Sprints, Long & Triple Jump), Akeem Walcott (Sprints), Joe Collis (Sprints), Tom Fizano (Distance)

Athletes to watch:

Sprints: (Srs) Nick Shaffer, Griffin Bilicic, Kareem Eleskandarani, Jim Keenan, John Lozinak, Ihsaan Yancey, (So) Zack Gribosh, Max Jones

Hurdles: (Srs) John Lozinak, Milan Harris, Chris McGinley (So) Alex Yablonski, Chris Huber

Distance: (Srs) Jeff Kirshenbaum, Evan Cost, (Jrs) Nick Defilippis, Josh Brycki, (So) Aiden O'Leary, Mike Clark, Justin Leggin

Jumps: (Sr) John Lozinak, Kareem Eleskandarani, Stephan Savage, (So) Max Jones, Zach Gribosh, John Keenan

Throws: (Srs) Jon Koehler, Scott Steuben, Glenn Merskey, Alex Nicoletti, (Jr) Chase Reber, Karan Singh, (So) Pat Maloney

Others to watch: (Jr) Ryan May (Throws), (So) John Keenan (Sprints/Jumps), Miles Hoven (Dist), (Fr) Will Roese (Sprints/Jumps), Will Rebert (Dist), Sean Ritchie (Dist), Tom Chimes (Dist), Garret Campbell (Dist), Garret McPhillips (Dist), Leland Merskey (Throws), Tonee Ellis (Throws)

Coach's comments/outlook:

"I really like the makeup of this team and I have been very pleased with the team's work ethic and intensity. They have great attitudes and have been working really hard. We have one of the largest group of underclass men we seen in years that will be experiencing the PAC 10 for the first time and seeing how they respond to the pressure of each competition will be something to watch. The younger athletes have mixed well with the veterans and all the athletes have begun to push each other in practice. Like any other team trying to get ready for the season, preparation and trying to avoid injuries is always a key issue, but we are building something good and we are working hard to stay competitive in the PAC-10. We have a good mix of experienced veterans and talented young athletes, and we will have to rely on some contributions from the young guys in order to make a run for the championship"

Opening meet (when, where): March 30th, Pottsgrove at Methacton

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Please contact me with any suggestions or feedback regarding this publication. The Athletic Office is working hard to continue to strengthen our relationship with the school community by providing the best possible communication.

Paul Spiewak, Assistant Principal for Athletics and Activities