

SAINT IGNATIUS HOCKEY

MEDIA GUIDE

2019-2020 Saint Ignatius Hockey "Brothers for Life"



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SAINT IGNATIUS HOCKEY.... BY THE NUMBERS

7

OHSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

6-0-1

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME RECORD

10

FROZEN FOUR APPEARANCES

13-3-1

FROZEN FOUR RECORD

7

LEAGUE TITLES

9

REGULAR SEASON LEAGUE TITLES

27-9-1

2018-19 RECORD

4

CONSECUTIVE STATE TITLES

#1

RANKED OHIO HS HOCKEY TEAM (MHR)

**RECORD SINCE 2010-11 VERSUS
SELECT NORTHEAST OHIO OPPONENTS**

20-4-0	vs. Saint Edward
16-2-0	vs. Gilmour Academy
15-3-2	vs. University School
13-1-1	vs. Walsh Jesuit
13-1-0	vs. Padua Franciscan
13-1-2	vs. Lake Catholic
10-1-0	vs. Holy Name
8-0-0	vs. Shaker Heights
4-1-0	vs. Rocky River

112 COMBINED WINS
85.4% WIN PERCENTAGE

SAINT IGNATIUS ATHLETICS MISSION

Just as Saint Ignatius students are called to honor God with their academic work, Wildcat student-athletes are challenged to honor God with their practice and play. The virtues they hone while competing are meant to be employed in their daily lives. The first four letters of the Jesuit motto, "Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam" (Latin: For the Greater Glory of God), adorn team uniforms as a reminder of the ultimate goal of Saint Ignatius athletics. Team prayer, sports chaplain sessions, and regular Mass attendance also serve to reinforce the connection between sport at Saint Ignatius and the Faith. As a whole, athletics provide an opportunity for young men to come to know God and discern an answer to the question, "What does God want from me?"

SAINT IGNATIUS HOCKEY MOTTOES/RESULTS

2004-05:	19-14-1	Humble & Hungry
2005-06:	7-25-0	Band of Brothers
2006-07:	22-13-0	Labor Omnia Vincit
2007-08:	26-9-1	Prepare for Glory
2008-09:	28-9-0	Do What You Do Best
2009-10:	31-7-3	Semper Fidelis
2010-11:	30-7-0	Whatever It Takes
2011-12:	39-1-0	W & L - The Only Stats That Matter
2012-13:	29-6-3	Focus & Finish
2013-14:	30-4-6	The Brotherhood
2014-15:	32-4-3	Union
2015-16:	38-2-1	Strength & Honor
2016-17:	29-7-2	What We Do in Life Echoes in Eternity
2017-18:	30-9-1	Refuse to Lose
2018-19:	27-9-1	Family

CREDITS

The 2019-20 Saint Ignatius hockey media guide was created by Jack O'Rourke '20 with editorial help from Pat O'Rourke '90. All records related to Saint Ignatius hockey have been kept by Pat O'Rourke. All-time records versus opponents are from shutout.com. Team ratings, as well as other data relating to opponents, have been taken from myhockeyrankings.com or school and team websites. All pictures in "Meet the Wildcats" were taken from eliteprospects.com.

SAINT IGNATIUS... AT A GLANCE

Location:	Cleveland, Ohio (44113)
Founded:	1886
Nickname:	Wildcats
Colors:	Blue & Gold
Enrollment:	1450
Arena (Capacity):	John M. Coyne Recreation Center (2,500)
Affiliation:	OHSAA
Conference:	Independent
President:	Fr. Raymond Guiao '82
Principal:	Mr. Daniel Bradesca '88
Athletic Director:	Mr. Rory Fitzpatrick '88
Contact info:	rfitzpatrick@ignatius.edu
Assistant AD:	Mr. Brad Ganor
Contact info:	bganor@ignatius.edu
Admin. Assistant:	Mrs. Jennifer Fight
Contact info:	jfight@ignatius.edu

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach:	Pat O'Rourke '90
Alma Mater:	Miami University (Ohio)
Years in Program:	23
General Manager:	Rob Gramc
Alma Mater:	Siena Heights University
Years in Program:	9
Assistant Coach:	Brian Holz '07
Alma Mater:	Ohio State University
Years in Program:	6
Assistant Coach:	Bryan Schoenholz
Alma Mater:	University of Dayton
Years in Program:	11
Assistant Coach:	Joe Geither
Alma Mater:	Cleveland State University
Years in Program:	10
Goalie Coach:	Ed Zdolshek '09
Alma Mater:	Nazareth College
Years in Program:	1
Chaplain:	Jim Brennan '83
Alma Mater:	University of Notre Dame
Years in Program:	4

MEET THE COACHES

Mr. Pat O'Rourke '90, Head Coach 23rd year in program

THE O'ROURKE FILE

Hometown:	Cleveland, Ohio
High School:	Saint Ignatius
Colleges:	Miami University (Undergraduate) John Carroll University (Graduate School)
Degrees:	B.S. in Education; B.A. in Classical Humanities; M.A. in Humanities
Current job:	Admissions Director at Saint Ignatius High School
Wife:	Mrs. Lisa O'Rourke
Kids:	Jack (17), Bobby (13), Paddy (11)
Fun Fact:	Enjoys playing the drums and doing crossword puzzles
Favorite song:	"Comfortably Numb"
Favorite band:	Aerosmith, Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, Pearl Jam
Favorite professional sports team:	Cleveland Indians
Favorite home cooked meal:	Spaghetti and Meatballs
Favorite restaurant:	Any steak joint
Favorite professional athlete:	Nick Chubb
Favorite pro hockey players:	Duncan Keith (D), Alexander Ovechkin (F)

Memories Coaching at SIHS:

- I love being on the road with the guys, playing cards with my assistant coaches, and just having fun on the bus

Hobbies:

- I enjoy playing catch with my 3 sons in the front yard

Coaching Accomplishments:

- We've had some nice success on the ice recently, but honestly every team is special in its own way whether they win states or not. When you do this long enough, you realize more and more it's about the people - both the players and the coaches. We have been blessed to have many great families in our program and that makes this all worthwhile.



Mr. Rob Gramc, Assistant Coach 9th year on staff

THE GRAMC FILE

Hometown: Cleveland, Ohio

High School: Gilmour Academy, Lake Catholic High School

College: Siena Heights University

Degree: Sports Management

Current job: Shamrock Hose and Fittings

Wife: Mrs. Jessica Gramc

Kids: Mackenzie (5), Hudson (4), Olivia (1)

Memories Coaching at SIHS:

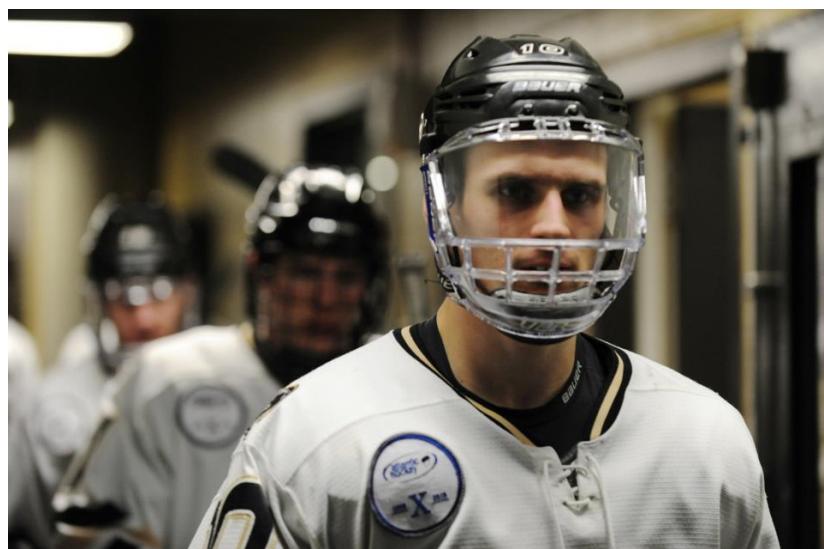
- Being part of two outdoor games, 2012 at Progressive Field versus Saint Edward & 2015 at 5/3 Field in Toledo versus Saint John
- 2015-16 State Frozen Four: Toledo St. Francis “David vs. Goliath” upset
- 2016-17 State Frozen Four: 3OT versus University School
- 2017-18 State Frozen Four: 2OT versus Toledo St. Francis
- 2018-19 State Frozen Four: First-ever 4-peat

Hobbies:

- Spending time with family
- Taking the kids to hockey and soccer practices and games
- Cleveland sports and Notre Dame football

Coaching Accomplishments:

- Two-time Baron Cup champion assistant coach
- Four-time Cleveland Cup champion assistant coach
- Five-time OHSAA D-I State Champion assistant coach



Former Saint Ignatius player Zak Zaremba enjoyed a nice career at Division 1 Army

Mr. Brian Holz '07, Assistant Coach 6th year as assistant coach

THE HOLZ FILE

Hometown: Broadview Heights, Ohio
High School: Saint Ignatius High School
College: The Ohio State University (Undergraduate)
University of Notre Dame (Graduate MBA Program)
Current job: Financial Due Diligence Manager - PwC Deals Practice
Hobbies: Golf, travelling, Cleveland Sports fan
Fun Fact: Coach Holz has worn the same blazer for every playoff game in the past three seasons, and only wears it for the playoffs.

Memories Coaching at SIHS:

- Coaching in my first district final game during the 2016-17 season and winning my first state championship that same year
- Time spent with coaches and players during practices and road trips
- OT state championship victory versus St. Francis 5-4 2OT in 2017-18

Coaching Accomplishments:

- 3 time OHSAA D-I State Champion assistant coach
- Coached the Wildcats defensemen in 2018-19; his defense allowed only four goals in six playoff games
- Before heading off to Graduate School, coached junior varsity as an assistant, where he won a JV state championship

Mr. Joe Geither, Assistant Coach 10th year as assistant coach

THE GEITHER FILE

Hometown: Lakewood, Ohio
High School: Parma Senior High School (played on Parma Midget Travel)
College: Cleveland State (played two years of club hockey)
Degree: Bachelor of Chemical Engineering & Juris Doctorate
Current job: Senior Project Manager at ABB
Wife: Mrs. Kathy Geither
Kids: Adam '09, Liam '12, Matty '15, Clare

Memories Coaching at SIHS:

- Liam's 108-point senior season
- Matty's two third-period goals en route to winning the inaugural Cleveland Cup
- Coaching two of his sons at SIHS, and winning a state title with both

Coaching Accomplishments:

- President and coach for 12+ years for the WHA (Winterhurst Hockey Association)
- 2000-2002 assistant coach of Lakewood High School
- 5 years as head coach of Lakewood Club Hockey, 2-time "Jock Callander Cup" Champions (league title)
- 5-time OHSAA D-I State Champion assistant coach

Mr. Bryan Schoenholz, Assistant Coach 11th year as assistant coach

THE SCHOENHOLZ FILE

High School: Padua Franciscan
College: University of Dayton
Degree: Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering
Current job: Research Engineer at NASA
Wife: Mrs. Megan Schoenholz
Kids: Jacob, Luke, Katie

Memories Coaching at SIHS:

- Predicted Liam Geither's two goals in 2010 District Final
- All the times and memories with the coaches

Coaching Accomplishments:

- 6-time OHSAA D-I State Champion assistant coach

Hobbies:

- Baseball fan, watching his children grow

Mr. Jim Brennan '85, Chaplain 4th year as chaplain

THE BRENNAN FILE

Hometown: Strongsville
High School: St Ignatius (1985)
College: University of Notre Dame (1989), John Carroll (Master's Degree) (1994)
Degree: BA--Theology and History; MA Religious Studies
Current job: Theology Teacher, Director of UK/Irish Studies, Soccer Coach, Hockey Chaplain
Wife: Kristin (28 years)
Kids: Kathleen (26), Anne (24), Danny (18)

Coaching Accomplishments:

- Mr. Brennan, being the humble man he is, will not recognize his own coaching accomplishments so we will. Brennan has coached the JV A Soccer team to countless undefeated seasons and huge wins over rivals. Congratulations on this season's undefeated JV A team, part of an undefeated season by the entire soccer program.

Hobbies:

- Reading, playing the bagpipes

Mr. Ed Zdolshek '09, Goalie Coach 1st year as goalie coach

THE ZDOLSKHEK FILE

Hometown:

Parma, Ohio

High School:

Saint Ignatius

College:

Nazareth College '16

Degree:

Bachelor of Science in Finance, Bachelor of Arts in History

Current job:

Wealth Manager with Cetera Advisor Networks

Memories Coaching at SIHS:

- Memories coaching Ignatius: It's my first year coaching at Ignatius. But some of my memories playing would be winning the league and getting back into the Red North. Also, not the best memory but I have to mention the 7 OT district final. I know we came up short but I think that hunger for all returnees, who are still some of my close friends today, helped bring home Coach O'Rourke's first state title the following year.

Coaching/Playing at SIHS and beyond:

- After high school, I played junior hockey for two years for the Ottawa Jr. Senators in the CCHL. I then played 4 years at Nazareth College in the NCAA. I finished playing after various stops in the minor leagues with the Rochester Americans AHL (Buffalo affiliate), Manchester Monarchs ECHL (LA affiliate), and Watertown Wolves FHL.
- My coaching experiences thus far include head or assistant coaching roles for the Parma Flyers and Cleveland Barons. I also work as a goaltending instructor for Ohio Hockey Project, Conway Goaltending and privately with goalies in the area. Additionally I scout for the Ottawa Jr. Senators in the CCHL covering primarily the Midwest US and Southern Ontario.

Hobbies:

- Golf, cooking, going to Cleveland sporting events



2019-2020 SAINT IGNATIUS HOCKEY SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Opponent	Location
11/16/19	2:30 PM	Dublin Jerome (Scrimmage)	Wooster
11/17/19	2:20 PM	Olentangy Liberty (Scrimmage)	Wooster
11/23/19	7:00 PM	18U AAA Pittsburgh Predators (PA)	Brooklyn
11/24/19	11:00 AM	18U AAA Pittsburgh Predators (PA)	Brooklyn
11/29/19	5:00 PM	U of Detroit Jesuit (MI)	OLSM, MI
11/30/19	11:00 AM	Grand Rapids Catholic Central (MI)	OLSM, MI
11/30/19	5:00 PM	Orchard Lake St. Mary's (MI)	OLSM, MI
12/7/19	8:00 PM	18U AAA Pittsburgh Predators (PA)	Ice Castle, PA
12/8/19	11:00 AM	18U AAA Pittsburgh Predators (PA)	Ice Castle, PA
12/11/19	4:30 PM	Gilmour Academy Varsity "A"	Gilmour
12/20-22/19	TBD	Saint Ignatius Fr. Welsh Showcase Teams: New Trier "Green" (IL), Marquette (WI), Pittsburgh Icemen AA	Brooklyn
12/28/19	4:45 PM	St. Edward	Brooklyn
12/29/19	1:45 PM	University School	Brooklyn
1/3/20	4:30 PM	A21 Academy Prep (ONT)	Yost Arena, MI
1/4/20	8:00 AM	A21 Academy Prep (ONT)	Yost Arena, MI
1/18/20	TBD	18U AA Pittsburgh Predators (PA)	TBD
1/18/20	4:45 PM	18U AA Pittsburgh Predators (PA)	Brooklyn
1/24-26/20	TBD	Saint Ignatius Fr. Styles Showcase Teams: Loyola Academy (IL), Hartland (MI), Salem (MI), North Broward Prep (FL), Livonia Stevenson (MI), Gilmour (OH)	Brooklyn
1/31/20	5:00 PM	Detroit Central Catholic (MI)	Oak Park, MI
2/1/20	3:00 PM	Brother Rice (MI)	Munn Arena, MI
2/7-9/20	TBD	MIHL Showcase Teams: 38 from Michigan, 2 from Wisconsin, 1 from Ohio,	Trenton, MI
2/14/20	7:00 PM	Toledo St. Francis	Toledo, OH
2/15/20	11:00 AM	Toledo St. John	Toledo, OH
2/24/20-3/8/20		OHSAA District Tournament	Brooklyn
3/14-16/20		OHSAA Frozen Four	Nationwide Arena

MEET THE OPPONENTS

DUBLIN JEROME CELTICS

Location:	Dublin, Ohio	
Association:	Ohio High School Athletic Association	
Division:	Capital Hockey Conference	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	91.31	
2018-19 record:	37-4-0	
2018-19 ranking:	#2, OHSAA	
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-2-0	
First matchup:	3/9/18	Saint Ignatius 6, Dublin Jerome 1
Last matchup:	3/9/19	Saint Ignatius 7, Dublin Jerome 2

OLENTANGY LIBERTY PATRIOTS

Location:	Powell, Ohio	
Association:	Ohio High School Athletic Association	
Division:	Capital Hockey Conference	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	89.34	
2018-19 record:	23-13-2	
2018-19 ranking:	#8, OHSAA	
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-6-1	
First matchup:	12/5/09	Saint Ignatius 5, Olentangy Liberty 3
Last matchup:	12/16/17	Saint Ignatius 5, Olentangy Liberty 1

PITTSBURGH PREDATORS U18 AAA

Location:	Shannon, Pennsylvania	
Association:	Pittsburgh Amateur Predators Hockey Association	
Division:	Independent USA Midget 18U Tier I	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	94.95	
2018-19 record:	23-17-5	
2018-19 ranking:	#64, USA Midget 18U Tier I	
All time record vs. SIHS:	3-3-0	
First matchup:	11/18/17	Pittsburgh Predators 5, Saint Ignatius 2
Last matchup:	12/30/18	Pittsburgh Predators 7, Saint Ignatius 2

UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT JESUIT CUBS

Location:	Detroit, Michigan	
Association:	Michigan High School Athletic Association	
Division:	Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	93.02	
2018-19 record:	19-9-1	
2018-19 ranking:	#10, MHSAA	
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-1-0	
First matchup:	2/2/19	Saint Ignatius 6, U of D Jesuit 2
Last matchup:	2/2/19	Saint Ignatius 6, U of D Jesuit 2

GRAND RAPIDS CATHOLIC CENTRAL COUGARS

Location:	Grand Rapids, Michigan
Association:	Michigan High School Athletic Association
Division:	OK Rue
2018-19 MHR Rating:	90.47
2018-19 record:	15-11-1
2018-19 ranking:	#34, MHSAA
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-0

ORCHARD LAKE ST. MARY EAGLETS

Location:	Orchard Lake Village, Michigan
Association:	Michigan High School Athletic Association
Division:	Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League
2018-19 MHR Rating:	92.78
2018-19 record:	13-15-0
2018-19 ranking:	#12, MHSAA
All time record vs. SIHS:	1-1-1
First matchup:	2/4/17 OLSM 5, Saint Ignatius 4 (SO)
Last matchup:	1/25/19 Saint Ignatius 2, OLSM 1

GILMOUR ACADEMY VARSITY “A” LANCERS

Location:	Gates Mills, Ohio
Association:	Ohio High School Athletic Association
Division:	Great Lakes Hockey League
2018-19 MHR Rating:	90.70
2018-19 record:	30-6-1
2018-19 ranking:	#3, OHSAA
All time record vs. SIHS:	7-23-1
First matchup:	12/20/01 Gilmour 2, Saint Ignatius 1 (OT)
Last matchup:	1/22/17 Saint Ignatius 6, Gilmour 0

NEW TRIER “GREEN” TREVians

Location:	Winnetka, Illinois
Association:	Illinois High School Association
Division:	Illinois High School Scholastic
2018-19 MHR Rating:	94.16
2018-19 record:	55-7-1
2018-19 ranking:	#1, IHSA
All time record vs. SIHS:	1-1-0
First matchup:	12/26/15 Saint Ignatius 6, New Trier 0
Last matchup:	1/18/19 New Trier 4, Saint Ignatius 2

MARQUETTE HILLTOPPERS

Location:	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	
Association:	Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association	
Division:	Classic Eight	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	91.24	
2018-19 record:	15-10-1	
2018-19 ranking:	#21, WIAA	
All time record vs. SIHS:	1-0-0	
First matchup:	1/15/17	Marquette 5, Saint Ignatius 4
Last matchup:	1/15/17	Marquette 5, Saint Ignatius 4

A21 ACADEMY PREP

Location:	Toronto, Ontario, Canada	
Association:	Canada Prep	
Division:	PSHF 18U	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	93.21	
2018-19 record:	33-32-5	
2018-19 ranking:	#40, Canada Prep	
All time record vs. SIHS:	1-3	
First matchup:	1/3/19	Saint Ignatius 2, A21 Academy 1
Last matchup:	1/27/19	A21 Academy 4, Saint Ignatius 2

PITTSBURGH PREDATORS U18 AA

Location:	Shannon, Pennsylvania	
Association:	Pittsburgh Amateur Predators Hockey Association	
Division:	PAHL 18U Midget AA	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	93.11	
2018-19 record:	28-6-1	
2018-19 ranking:	#18, USA Midget 18U Tier II	
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-0	

PITTSBURGH ICEMEN U18 AA

Location:	Shannon, Pennsylvania	
Association:	Pittsburgh Amateur Predators Hockey Association	
Division:	PAHL 18U Midget AA	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	93.11	
2018-19 record:	28-6-1	
2018-19 ranking:	#18, USA Midget 18U Tier II	
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-0	

LOYOLA ACADEMY “GOLD” RAMBLERS

Location:	Wilmette, Illinois	
Association:	Illinois High School Association	
Division:	Illinois High School Scholastic	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	93.51	
2018-19 record:	48-13-0	
2018-19 ranking:	#2, IHSA	
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-1-1	
First matchup:	12/28/17	Saint Ignatius 5, Loyola 5
Last matchup:	1/21/19	Saint Ignatius 5, Loyola 3

HARTLAND EAGLES

Location:	Hartland, Michigan	
Association:	Michigan High School Athletic Association	
Division:	KLA- Gold	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	95.36	
2018-19 record:	27-4-0	
2018-19 ranking:	#2, MHSAA	
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-2-0	
First matchup:	1/12/18	Saint Ignatius 3, Hartland 1
Last matchup:	12/7/18	Saint Ignatius 2, Hartland 1

SALEM ROCKS

Location:	Canton, Michigan	
Association:	Michigan High School Athletic Association	
Division:	KLA- Black	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	92.34	
2018-19 record:	15-14-0	
2018-19 ranking:	#14, MHSAA	
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-1-0	
First matchup:	1/11/19	Saint Ignatius 4, Salem 0
Last matchup:	1/11/19	Saint Ignatius 4, Salem 0

NORTH BROWARD PREP EAGLES

Location:	Coconut Creek, Florida	
Association:	Florida High School Athletic Association	
Division:	FSL D1	
2018-19 MHR Rating:	89.77	
2018-19 record:	19-7-1	
2018-19 ranking:	#1, FHSAA	
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-0	

LIVONIA STEVENSON SPARTANS

Location:	Livonia, Michigan
Association:	Michigan High School Athletic Association
Division:	KLAA- Black
2018-19 MHR Rating:	94.36
2018-19 record:	21-6-1
2018-19 ranking:	#3, MHSAA
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-0

DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL SHAMROCKS

Location:	Novi, Michigan
Association:	Michigan High School Athletic Association
Division:	Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League
2018-19 MHR Rating:	95.92
2018-19 record:	29-1-1
2018-19 ranking:	#1, MHSAA
All time record vs. SIHS:	2-0
First matchup:	2/3/18 DCC 6, Saint Ignatius 1
Last matchup:	2/1/19 DCC 6, Saint Ignatius 2

BROTHER RICE WARRIORS

Location:	Bloomfield Township, Michigan
Association:	Michigan High School Athletic Association
Division:	Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League
2018-19 MHR Rating:	93.84
2018-19 record:	16-9-4
2018-19 ranking:	#6, MHSAA
All time record vs. SIHS:	0-0

TOLEDO ST. FRANCIS de SALES KNIGHTS

Location:	Toledo, Ohio
Association:	Ohio High School Athletic Association
Division:	NHC- West
2018-19 MHR Rating:	88.06
2018-19 record:	8-22-1
2018-19 ranking:	#19, OHSAA
All time record vs. SIHS:	7-11-1
First matchup:	12/27/02 Saint Ignatius 8, St. Francis 2
Last matchup:	3/10/18 Saint Ignatius 5, St. Francis 4 (2OT)

TOLEDO ST. JOHN TITANS

Location:	Toledo, Ohio
Association:	Ohio High School Athletic Association
Division:	NHC- Red
2018-19 MHR Rating:	88.59
2018-19 record:	18-13-3
2018-19 ranking:	#15, OHSAA
All time record vs. SIHS:	12-17-3
First matchup:	11/25/00 SJJ 2, Saint Ignatius 1
Last matchup:	12/18/15 Saint Ignatius 5, SJJ 0

SAINT EDWARD EAGLES

Location:	Lakewood, Ohio
Association:	Ohio High School Athletic Association
Division:	Great Lakes Hockey League
2018-19 MHR Rating:	90.40
2018-19 record:	24-11-1
2018-19 ranking:	#4, OHSAA
All time record vs. SIHS:	25-30-0
First matchup:	11/26/00 Saint Edward 5, Saint Ignatius 4
Last matchup:	12/20/18 Saint Ignatius 4, Saint Edward 1

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL PREPPERS

Location:	Hunting Valley, Ohio
Association:	Ohio High School Athletic Association
Division:	Great Lakes Hockey League
2018-19 MHR Rating:	89.70
2018-19 record:	20-16-2
2018-19 ranking:	#7, OHSAA
All time record vs. SIHS:	18-22-3
First matchup:	12/9/00 US 4, Saint Ignatius 1
Last matchup:	3/11/17 Saint Ignatius 4, US 3 (3 OT)



2018-19 SEASON RESULTS

Team	W/L	Score	Record	Tournament/Note
Pittsburgh Predators U18 AAA (PA)	W	4-2	1-0-0	
Pittsburgh Predators U18 AAA (PA)	L	1-3	1-1-0	
Pittsburgh Vengeance U18 AAA (PA)	W	7-2	2-1-0	
Pittsburgh Vengeance U18 AAA (PA)	W	7-2	3-1-0	
Hartland (MI)	W	2-1	4-1-0	
Brighton (MI)	W	4-3 (OT)	5-1-0	
Shady Side Academy (PA)	L	3-5	5-2-0	
Shady Side Academy (PA)	L	1-6	5-3-0	
Saint Edward	W	4-1	6-3-0	
Pittsburgh Predators U18 AAA (PA)	W	5-3	7-3-0	
Pittsburgh Predators U18 AAA (PA)	L	2-7	7-4-0	
A21 Academy (ONT)	W	2-1	8-4-0	played at Notre Dame
A21 Academy (ONT)	W	1-0	9-4-0	played at Notre Dame
Salem (MI)	W	4-0	10-4-0	
Plymouth (MI)	W	3-0	11-4-0	
Novi (MI)	W	4-3	12-4-0	
New Trier "Green" (IL)	L	2-4	12-5-0	
St. Joseph's Prep (PA)	W	6-1	13-5-0	Chicago Jesuit Cup
Loyola Montreal (QUE)	W	7-0	14-5-0	Chicago Jesuit Cup
Chicago Saint Ignatius (IL)	W	8-1	15-5-0	Chicago Jesuit Cup
Loyola Academy "Gold" (IL)	W	5-3	16-5-0	Chicago Jesuit Cup
Orchard Lake St. Mary's (MI)	W	2-1	17-5-0	SIHS Showcase
A21 Academy (ONT)	W	4-2	18-5-0	SIHS Showcase
St. Michael's College (ONT)	L	3-6	18-6-0	SIHS Showcase
A21 Academy (ONT)	L	2-4	18-7-0	SIHS Showcase
Detroit Catholic Central (MI)	L	2-6	18-8-0	MIHL Showcase
University of Detroit Jesuit (MI)	W	6-2	19-8-0	MIHL Showcase
College de Levis (QUE)	L	2-4	19-9-0	Barrow Tourney
Le Sommet Academy (ONT)	W	6-2	20-9-0	Barrow Tourney
Upper Canada College (ONT)	L	3-4 (SO)	20-9-1	Barrow Tourney
Everest Academy (ONT)	W	11-0	21-9-1	Barrow Tourney
Brecksville	W	10-0	22-9-1	OHSAA Reg. Final
Midview	W	11-1	23-9-1	OHSAA District QF
Olmsted Falls	W	6-1	24-9-1	OHSAA District SF
Holy Name	W	6-0	25-9-1	OHSAA District Final
Sylvania Northview	W	7-0	26-9-1	OHSAA State Semis
Dublin Jerome	W	7-2	27-9-1	OHSAA State Final

Bold denotes state tournament or tournament championship game

Numerical 2019 Saint Ignatius Hockey Roster

No.	Name	Position	Ht.-Wt.	Experience	Grade School
2	Cook, Danny	F	5'8-155	2 letters	Gesu
3	Gazdak, Clay	D	5'10-165	3 letters	All Saints of John Vianney
4	Conway, Aidan "A"	D	6'1-210	3 letters	Lakewood Catholic Academy
5	Boehm, Michael "C"	D	5'9-155	3 letters	St. Christopher
6	Sullivan, Matt	F	5'7-155	2 letters	Gesu
7	Langermeier, Greg "C"	D	6'0-175	4 letters	Lee Burneson
9	Zawadzki, Owen	F	5'11-170	1 letter	Saint Raphael
10	Bilardo, Alex "A"	F	5'7-160	3 letters	Holy Trinity
11	Kurtz, Camden "A"	F	5'10-170	3 letters	Saint Raphael
12	Radke, Christian	F	5'11-175	1 letter	Gesu
13	Gray, Gordon	F	5'9-165	1 letter	Revere Middle
14	Galauner, Erik	F	5'10-155	2 letters	Brecksville-Broadview Hts.
15	Trobek, JT	D	5'10-175	1 letter	Brookfield Middle
16	DiMarco, Matt	F	5'10-175	1 letter	St. Barnabas
17	Klinge, Nathan	D	6'2-185	1 letter	Sts. Joseph & John
18	Erbs, Charlie	D	5'11-160	3 letters	St. Albert the Great
20	Zawadzki, Rory	F	6'2-175	3 letters	Saint Raphael
21	Federle, Ryce	D	6'0-170	1 letter	Saint Raphael
22	Millett, Aidan	F	5'10-170	3 letters	Bay Village Middle
23	Morford, Joey	F	5'10-170	1 letter	Shaker Heights
25	Wilson, Chuckie	F	5'10-170	1 letter	Cuyahoga Heights
30	Kovatch, Zak	GK	5'10-165	3 letters	Willets Middle
31	McLaughlin, Aidan	GK	5'10-180	1 letter	St. Anselm
35	Mohr, Dawson	GK	5'11-185	1 letter	Avon Middle

Alphabetical 2019 Saint Ignatius Hockey Roster

No.	Name	Position	Ht.-Wt.	Experience	Grade School
10	Bilardo, Alex "A"	F	5'7-160	3 letters	Holy Trinity
5	Boehm, Michael "C"	D	5'9-155	4 letters	St. Christopher
4	Conway, Aidan "A"	D	6'1-210	3 letters	Lakewood Catholic Academy
2	Cook, Danny	F	5'8-155	2 letters	Gesu
16	DiMarco, Matt	F	5'10-175	1 letter	St. Barnabas
18	Erbs, Charlie	D	5'11-160	3 letters	St. Albert the Great
21	Federle, Ryce	D	6'0-170	1 letter	Saint Raphael
14	Galauner, Erik	F	5'10-155	2 letters	Brecksville-Broadview Hts.
3	Gazdak, Clay	D	5'10-165	3 letters	All Saints of John Vianney
13	Gray, Gordon	F	5'9-165	1 letter	Revere Middle
17	Klinge, Nathan	D	6'2-185	1 letter	Sts. Joseph & John
30	Kovatch, Zak	GK	5'10-165	2 letters	Willets Middle
11	Kurtz, Camden "A"	F	5'10-170	3 letters	Saint Raphael
7	Langermeier, Greg "C"	D	6'0-175	4 letters	Lee Burneson
31	McLaughlin, Aidan	GK	5'10-180	1 letter	St. Anselm
22	Millett, Aidan	F	5'10-170	3 letters	Bay Village Middle
35	Mohr, Dawson	GK	5'11-185	1 letter	Avon Middle
23	Morford, Joey	F	5'10-170	1 letter	Shaker Heights
12	Radke, Christian	F	5'11-175	1 letter	Gesu
6	Sullivan, Matt	F	5'7-155	2 letters	Gesu
15	Trobek, JT	D	5'10-175	1 letter	Brookfield Middle
25	Wilson, Chuckie	F	5'10-170	1 letter	Cuyahoga Heights
9	Zawadzki, Owen	F	5'11-170	1 letter	Saint Raphael
20	Zawadzki, Rory	F	6'2-175	3 letters	Saint Raphael

MEET THE WILDCATS

#2 Danny Cook

FORWARD 5'10-140 LBS. SENIOR SECOND YEAR LETTERMAN

Danny Cook made big strides to improve his game over the summer. Cook, a Shaker Heights native, grew up attending Gesu. Danny's hockey career began for Cleveland Heights, and eventually Cook moved over to the Cleveland Barons program. Danny is interested in majoring in business. Cook wishes to attend Ohio State, Miami, or Dayton. Danny's parents are Mike and Joan. Danny has three older sisters whose names are Bridget, Margaret, and Maeve. In his free time, Cook enjoys golfing and fishing. Danny's favorite NHL team is the Columbus Blue Jackets. Cook chose Saint Ignatius for the academics and brotherhood that comes with the experience.

As a freshman, Cook played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U team. Cook recorded 25 points while playing in 51 games. Cook tipped in Ryce Federle's shot from the point in a win versus the Saint Edward JV team.

Cook became captain of the 15U as a sophomore. Cook recorded 38 points in 30 games for the Wildcats.

Cook's had 18 points for the Cleveland Wildcats 16U pre-season team as a junior. During the high school season, Cook played in 27 games for the Ice Cats and tallied an even 9 goals and 9 assists.

Cook's outlook for his senior year is a positive one. Many have called Cook the most improved player and his play in the Wildcats' three scrimmages showed why. To start the season, Cook will center the white line with linemates Christian Radke and Chuckie Wilson.



Cook (left) forechecking at the Chicago Jesuit Cup.

#3 Clay Gazdak

DEFENSEMAN

5'10-160 LBS. SENIOR

THIRD YEAR LETTERMAN

They don't come as consistent as Clay Gazdak. Gazdak, a Mentor native, attended St. John Vianney for grade school. Clay played his youth hockey for the Cleveland Jr. Lumberjacks. While Gazdak is also interested in junior hockey, he wishes to attend John Carroll to study Business Management. Clay's parents are Andy and Lori, and he has two older siblings named Andrew and Brittany. Gazdak enjoys golfing, fishing, and boating. Clay's favorite professional sports teams are the Columbus Blue Jackets and his beloved Boston Celtics. Gazdak chose Saint Ignatius for the academics, his future, and for family.

Gazdak played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U during his freshman year. Clay converted from forward to defense during the season and became captain midway through the season. From the blue line Gazdak produced 22 points.

Clay made the Saint Ignatius Prep team as a sophomore, playing in 38 of the team's games and recording seven assists. Gazdak's 38 games played was good for one of the teams' highest totals.

As a junior, Gazdak kept the same high level of play defensively and also boosted his point production. Gazdak recorded 16 points and had a two-goal game versus Chicago Saint Ignatius at the Chicago Jesuit Cup.

Clay is primed for a great senior season. Gazdak has continued to grow as a defenseman since his freshman year transition. Gazdak has come into his own on the power play and his offensive game is still expanding in a positive direction as he joins the rush frequently.



Gazdak (left) stopping on a dime and ready to make a play.

#4 Aidan Conway "A"

DEFENSEMAN 6'1-215 LBS. JUNIOR THIRD YEAR LETTERMAN

Aidan Conway embodies a Saint Ignatius defenseman. Conway is tall, strong, and physical- but also talented. Conway, a Lakewood native, attended Lakewood Catholic Academy. Aidan played his youth hockey for the Cleveland Barons. Aidan is interested in junior hockey. Conway's parents are Frank and Karen and he has a younger sister named Bridget. Aidan also plays linebacker for the Saint Ignatius football team. Conway is a fan of the Columbus Blue Jackets. Aidan chose Saint Ignatius for the academics, athletics, and camaraderie.

Conway was the lone freshman to make the Saint Ignatius hockey team in 2017-18. Aidan battled injuries to play in 27 games. Conway produced 4 points and only found himself in the penalty box for four minutes.

Conway's constant development and defensive work continued as a sophomore. Aidan also upped his offensive work by providing 10 points. Conway also scored 4 goals, which matched his point total as a freshman.

Aidan is only expected to improve as a junior. Conway has always played great defense and brought a physical presence; as an upperclassman, his offensive production will continue to improve. Aidan was named an alternate captain for the 2019-2020 season.



Conway (left) in action at the USHL Combine.

#5 Michael Boehm "C"

DEFENSEMAN

5'9-165 LBS.

SENIOR

FOURTH YEAR LETTERMAN

Michael Boehm will go down in legend in the Saint Ignatius hockey program. Boehm, a Rocky River native, attended St. Christopher for grade school. Michael leads in virtually every career category for the Saint Ignatius lacrosse team and is committed as an attack to the University of Michigan. As a Wolverine, Boehm intends to study business. Michael's parents are Joe '80 and Patti. Boehm has two older siblings. His older brother Joey '05 was a hockey captain and is currently an assistant coach for the lacrosse team. Michael also has an older sister named Brittany. Boehm enjoys golfing, jet skiing, and paddleboarding. Michael is a fan of Michigan athletics and the Pittsburgh Penguins. Boehm chose Saint Ignatius for the culture, tradition, and athletics. Michael was selected as an All-American at attack for lacrosse.

Boehm played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U as a freshman. Michael had 54 points in 36 games before leaving for the Saint Ignatius Prep team later that year. Boehm provided 17 points in 17 games at forward for the Prep team, scoring key goals in the state semi-final and state final for the Wildcats.

Michael played for the Cleveland Wildcats 16U in the pre-season. Boehm produced 49 points in 29 games. Boehm more than doubled his production for Saint Ignatius from the previous season as he had 39 points in 35 games. Boehm scored a key goal against Rocky River in the District semi-final. After an injury to Michael McCaffrey, Boehm was named an alternate captain.

Boehm averaged one point per game as a junior totaling 37 points in 37 games. Michael's biggest goal of the season was the opening tally in the district final versus Holy Name. Boehm was selected as an alternate captain.

As always, the outlook is positive for the versatile Boehm. Michael is one of the best hockey players to ever come through Saint Ignatius' storied halls. Boehm will anchor the defense and be integral on the power play. Michael was named captain for the 2019-2020 season.



Boehm (left) breaking the puck out.

#6 Matt Sullivan

FORWARD

5'8-160 LBS.

SENIOR

SECOND YEAR LETTERMAN

Matt Sullivan plays with a hustle like few do. Sullivan grew up in Shaker Heights and attended Gesu for grade school. Matt would like to attend Ohio State or Miami to major in business or engineering. Sullivan's parents are Dan and Maureen and he has two brothers named Tim and Ryan. Matt enjoys golfing and fishing. Sullivan chose Saint Ignatius for the academics, brotherhood, and family atmosphere.

During Sullivan's freshman and sophomore years he played for the Cleveland Barons. Matt produced steady numbers during his years with the Barons.

While a junior, Matt made the transition to Saint Ignatius hockey. From the get-go Sullivan was a major contributor for the Blue and Gold. Matt recorded 19 points in his first campaign and scored the first goal in the state championship game.

Sullivan is one of many Wildcat forwards whose production should continue to improve this season. Paired with fellow seniors Alex Bilardo and Rory Zawadzki on the "blue" line, Sullivan can either bury goals himself or do the dirty work to set up his linemates.



#7 Greg Langermeier “C”

DEFENSEMAN

6'1-180 LBS.

SENIOR

FOURTH YEAR LETTERMAN

Whenever Greg Langermeier stops playing hockey, not a soul will be able to say he didn't give it his all. He shoots hard, hits hard, and is ever-aggressive. Langermeier attended Lee Burneson Middle School in his home town of Westlake. Greg is interested in playing junior hockey or attending Ohio State for college. Langermeier's parents are Greg and Tanya. Greg has two older siblings named Ellis and Erin. Ellis was a top-tier golfer at Westlake and Erin was a national finalist and captain for the Ohio State Women's hockey team. Langermeier enjoys golfing, boating, and hitting people. Greg chose Saint Ignatius for the academics, brotherhood, and athletics.

Greg played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U as a freshman. Langermeier totaled 47 points in 42 games for CLE before joining Saint Ignatius Prep. Greg's lone goal of the season came on the power play in the Cleveland Cup Final 5-2 win versus Saint Edward. Langermeier's defensive play earned him consistent ice time in the state playoffs.

In his sophomore year, Langermeier's big hits continued to shock his opponents and his offensive game only grew. Greg totaled 8 goals and 16 assists from the blue line. Langermeier's biggest goal of the year came in double-overtime of the state championship game.

Greg posted a career-high 26 points as a junior and reached double digit goals. Langermeier's power play presence was a key to the Wildcats' extra-skater attack. Langermeier's game-winner against A21 Academy at Compton Family Ice Arena will also go down in Wildcat lore. Greg was an alternate captain, preparing him to be a captain his senior year.

When Langermeier returns from injury, the Wildcats will take off. The dynamic senior is a vocal leader in the locker room and was rightfully named captain for the 2019-2020 season alongside Michael Boehm.



Greg Langermeier (left) at the National Jesuit Cup.

#9 Owen Zawadzki

FORWARD

5'10-160 LBS. SOPHOMORE

FIRST YEAR LETTERMAN

Owen Zawadzki will join his older brother Rory for Saint Ignatius this season. Zawadzki, an Avon Lake native, attended Saint Raphael for grade school. In the future, Owen wishes to attend Ohio State or Miami to major in pre-dentistry or pre-med. Zawadzki grew up playing hockey for the Cleveland Jr. Lumberjacks and Cleveland Barons. Owen's parents are Greg and Missy, and he has a younger sister named Gwen and an older brother which just so happens to be senior forward Rory. Zawadzki enjoys golf, basketball, and video games. Owen's favorite NHL team is the Columbus Blue Jackets. Zawadzki chose Saint Ignatius for the education and atmosphere.

As a freshman, Zawadzki dominated the 15U level for the Cleveland Wildcats. Owen's overall on-ice awareness led to countless chances for him. Zawadzki's 16U call-up saw him notch 9 points in 9 games.

To begin his sophomore year Zawadzki again played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U. Owen produced 21 points in 23 games before trying out for and making the Saint Ignatius Prep team in November.

Zawadzki has a bright future. Being the only sophomore forward to make the team, Owen will go through a learning curve just as every other forward did. But when Zawadzki gets his feet wet, watch out. Owen's assist totals file him under the playmaker category but at the same time he isn't afraid to light the lamp and he brings an element of toughness, too.



#10 Alex Bilardo “A”

FORWARD

5'6-158 LBS.

SENIOR

THIRD YEAR LETTERMAN

Alex Bilardo is a prolific scorer in the Saint Ignatius hockey program. Bilardo grew up in Avon and attended Holy Trinity. Alex played his youth hockey for the Cleveland Jr. Lumberjacks. Bilardo is interested in playing junior hockey or attending college to study sports management. Alex's parents are Mike '84 and Chris. Bilardo has an older brother Owen '18 who was a golfer at Saint Ignatius and hockey team manager. Alex is a fan of the Washington Capitals. Bilardo chose Saint Ignatius for the academics, athletics, and family legacy.

During his freshman year, Alex played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U. Bilardo posted an impressive 62 points in just 50 games.

As a sophomore, Bilardo had 39 points in 29 games for the Cleveland Wildcats 16U in the pre-season. After making the Saint Ignatius team later in the fall, Alex recorded 26 points for the Blue and Gold. Bilardo had 8 power play points and scored in the state semi-final versus Dublin Jerome.

Junior year, Bilardo produced 34 points in 25 games for the 16U Cleveland Wildcats. With the Prep team, Alex's 37 points was good for first amongst forwards. Bilardo's 16 power play points and 13 power play assists made him lethal. Alex scored key goals against Saint Edward and in the state semi-final versus Sylvania Northview.

Bilardo was named an alternate captain for his senior season. Alex's power play production and knack for scoring key goals makes him incredibly valuable. Bilardo is a feisty player who likes to hit and protect his teammates.



Alex Bilardo (left) playing at Notre Dame versus A21 Academy.

#11 Camden Kurtz “A”

FORWARD

6'0-175 LBS.

SENIOR

THIRD YEAR LETTERMAN

The Kurtz family is synonymous with Saint Ignatius hockey. Cam and his older brother Bain have provided countless memorable moments for the Wildcats. Kurtz grew up in Westlake and attended St. Raphael. Cam played for the Rocky River Pirates, Cleveland Alliance, and Cleveland Barons for his youth hockey. Kurtz would like to study business at Miami or Ohio State. Cam’s parents are Mark and Heather, and in addition to his brother Bain, Cam has a younger sister named Maggie. Kurtz is a fan of the Columbus Blue Jackets. Cam chose Saint Ignatius for the academics, athletics, and family.

As a freshman, Kurtz played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U. Cam’s 52 points trended towards the top of the team and Kurtz’s power play abilities quickly shone through.

Cam posted an impressive 16-22-38 stat line in just 29 games for the Cleveland Wildcats 16U team during his sophomore year before earning a spot on the Saint Ignatius hockey team. Playing with his brother Bain, Kurtz had 14 points and scored two key goals while also taking only three penalties. Cam scored to take the lead against Rocky River in the district semi-final and scored the game-tying goal in the state championship.

Playing the same amount of games as his sophomore year, Cam more than doubled his point total to 30 points. Kurtz doubled his goals from 6 to 12 and more than doubled his assist total. Kurtz had a multi-goal performance in the state semifinal and added a tally in the state championship game.

This year, Kurtz retains his linemates from last season’s playoffs and looks to again improve his point production. Cam is a key part of the Wildcat power play and was named an alternate captain for his senior season.



Kurtz (left) rocking the away jersey against Saint Ignatius (IL).

#12 Christian Radke

FORWARD

5'10-165 LBS. SENIOR

SECOND YEAR LETTERMAN

Christian Radke, Danny Cook, and Chuckie Wilson are the three horsemen of Saint Ignatius hockey. Radke attended Gesu for grade school and lives in Cleveland Heights. Christian would like to attend Ohio State, Miami, South Carolina, or Michigan State to major in business or real estate. Radke played his youth hockey for Shaker Heights. Christian's parents are Rich and Christie and he has three siblings named Sydney, Claire, and Luke. Radke enjoys lacrosse, snowboarding, and eating Chipotle. Christian's favorite hockey team is the Anaheim Ducks. Radke chose Saint Ignatius for the education and brotherhood.

As a freshman, Radke played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U team. Christian easily avoided the penalty box all season long and also provided 18 points for the Wildcats.

Christian's 12 points in 22 games for the Cleveland Wildcats 16U was in the upper echelon. Radke became a force for the Saint Ignatius Blue team in the winter, and it earned him a post-season call-up to the Saint Ignatius Varsity team.

Radke put on a show for the Cleveland Wildcats Blue team as a junior. Radke had 43 points in 31 games, including 29 goals. Christian teamed with Chuckie Wilson to produce countless goals while down a man.

After making the Saint Ignatius team for his senior season, Radke immediately made an impact in the pre-season. Christian, teamed with linemates Cook and Wilson, wowed with his aggressiveness, hitting, and hands from the get-go.

HOCKEY

Two consecutive playoff defeats administered by their traditional archrivals, Holy Name, wrote "finis" to the Wildcat icers' bid for the 1940-41 scholastic honours.

The Wildcats gained the playoffs only after they had completed the regular schedule with a .625 record which included decisions over West, Rhode Island, East, and an important victory over Euclid Shakers. In their last game of the regular season, the Blue and Gold sextet bested Holy Name 1-0.

The squad put in one of the scrappiest bids for the city title since the icers

were organized three years ago. In 1941 it attained a playoff berth for the first time. Mentor Herb Bee may rightfully pride himself in this achievement, for only two members of last year's Catholic and consolation city-championship team were among those who took the ice this season.

Captain Jim Braun, plucky senior, captained the team and his game fight was responsible to a great extent for the sextet's success. The other, Jack Kmiecik, well deserved the dual honors accorded him, being named in the All-Scholastic and All-Catholic teams.

Hockey—Varsity

First Row: J. Shaw, Gould, R. Pfeil, Mather, R. Allen, W. Feras, Kease, G. Williams, Mr. H. Bee.

Second Row: Coach Herb Bee, P. O'Neill, George, C. Smith, Gail, Kmiecik, J. Braun, Stockhausen, Clancy, Mr. Birney, S.J.

The squad put in one of the scrappiest bids for the city title since the icers

Top Right—A shot saved.

Bottom Left—Hot ice.

Hockey—Seniors

First Row: R. Allen, E. Edmonson, J. Shaw, Ed. Smith.

Second Row: G. Williams, mgr., R. Pfeil, J. Braun.

Ignatian

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Yearbook article from the 1940-41 season.

#13 Gordon Gray

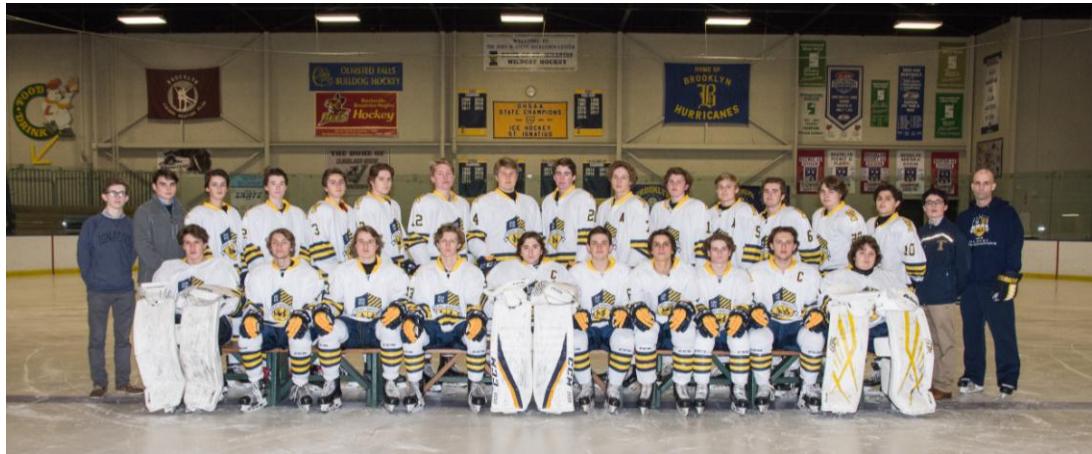
FORWARD 5'6-155 LBS. JUNIORFIRST YEAR LETTERMAN

Gordon Gray brings an unmatched intensity every time he steps on the ice. Gray attended Revere for middle school. Gordon hopes to attend Miami, John Carroll, Ohio University,, or Dayton to major in business or communications. Gray grew up playing for the Cleveland Barons. Gordon's parents are Dave and Maggie and he has a sister named Mollie. Gray enjoys lacrosse, piano, and hanging out with the boys. Gordon's favorite NHL team is the Vegas Golden Knights. Gray chose Saint Ignatius for the academics and family aspect.

Gray's high speed attack earned him a plethora of playing time on the Cleveland Wildcats 15U as a freshman. Gordon made his living killing penalties and also had 9 points.

Gordon upped his offensive production to match his defensive skills as a sophomore. Gray produced 13 points for the Cleveland Wildcats Blue team and was on the second line for most of the season.

Gray's energy and grittiness have earned him a spot on the Saint Ignatius hockey squad. Gordon will be all over the ice on the penalty kill and will learn from the veterans this season before taking on a bigger offensive role next year.



2018-19 Saint Ignatius Prep Team - 4-time State Champions

#14 Erik Galauner

FORWARD

5'10-155 LBS. JUNIORSECOND YEAR LETTERMAN

Erik Galauner is no stranger to hockey hugs. Galauner knows how to find the back of the net and dish the appropriate pass. Erik grew up in Broadview Heights and attended Brecksville for grade school. Galauner grew up playing for the Cleveland Barons and Tri-State Spartans. Erik would like to play junior hockey. Galauner's parents are Mark and Trina and he has two siblings named Adam and Bridgette. Erik enjoys playing soccer and is a fan of the Vancouver Canucks. Galauner chose Saint Ignatius for the rigorous academics and athletics.

Galauner played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U as a freshman. Erik's mind-boggling 92 points in 53 games is a Cleveland Wildcats' single-season record.

Erik's had 30 points in 31 games for the Cleveland Wildcats 16U his sophomore year in the pre-season and later earned a spot on the Saint Ignatius team. Galauner's domination continued as he had 37 points in 34 games. Erik only took one penalty in his time with Saint Ignatius.

Galauner is ready to take the next step. Erik is already a top point scorer for the Wildcats but he has goals of being the best to ever do it. Galauner's drive and will to play junior hockey has motivated him the whole way. Erik opens the season on the gold line joined by Camden Kurtz and Aidan Millett.



Erik Galauner (left) at the Chicago Jesuit Cup.

#15 JT Trobek

DEFENSEMAN 5'11-190 LBS. SOPHOMORE FIRST YEAR LETTERMAN

JT Trobek is the lone sophomore defenseman to make the team. Trobek, a Maple Heights native, went to Brookfield for grade school. JT would like to major in Physiology at Xavier, Miami, or Michigan State. Trobek grew up playing hockey for Kent. JT's parents are Joe and Stacy and he has two sisters named Ashleigh and Kayleigh. Trobek enjoys video games and putt-putt. JT is a fan of the Pittsburgh Penguins. Trobek chose Saint Ignatius for the great atmosphere and education.

Trobek spent his freshman year at all levels of the Cleveland Wildcats program. JT was impressive in his stay with the Cleveland Wildcats Blue team as he had 4-4-8 in 13 games.

In this, his sophomore year, JT's efforts during tryouts were good enough to secure him a spot on the Saint Ignatius hockey team. Much like Owen Zawadzki, JT is part of the future as well as the present. Trobek's hard shot and playmaking ability help him play beyond his years as he looks to contribute immediately to this year's team.



2018-19 Alumni Game Team Photo

#16 Matt DiMarco

FORWARD

5'10-165 LBS. SENIOR

FIRST YEAR LETTERMAN

Matt DiMarco's shot is as hard as they come. DiMarco, a Sagamore Hills native, attended Saint Barnabas for grade school. Matt would like to attend Dayton or Ohio to major in business. DiMarco played his youth hockey for the Cleveland Barons. Matt's parents are Dan and Amy and he has two siblings named Nathan and Camille. DiMarco enjoys Fortnite, reading, and baseball. Matt's favorite NHL team is the Columbus Blue Jackets. DiMarco chose Saint Ignatius for the education and campus.

DiMarco played defense as a freshman for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U. Matt was solid and steady and posted 7 assists.

As a forward, DiMarco's offensive ability shined as a sophomore. At the 15U level he produced 24 points in 35 games, including 16 assists.

DiMarco played for the Cleveland Wildcats program as a junior and produced his highest season goal total ever.

Matt made the Prep team his senior year. DiMarco is an opportunist - his game is centered around being in the right place at the right time. Matt's high hockey IQ and hard shot, mixed with his ability to kill penalties, will make him a presence on the gray line for the Blue and Gold.



2018-19 Christmas Season Scrimmage versus Cleveland Rockin' Wildcats

#17 Nathan Klinge

DEFENSEMAN

6'5-175 LBS. JUNIORFIRST YEAR LETTERMAN

Nathan Klinge's size and defensive abilities will make him a force to be reckoned with. Klinge attended Sts. Joseph and John and lives in Strongsville. Nathan hopes to attend Ohio University to major in Criminal Justice. Klinge grew up playing for the Cleveland Barons. Nathan's parents are Stephen and Sarah and he has a brother named John. Klinge's hobbies include snowboarding, video games, and being skinny. Nathan's favorite NHL team is the Buffalo Sabres. Klinge chose Saint Ignatius for the education and campus.

As a freshman with the Cleveland Wildcats 15U team, the stalwart defenseman provided 11 points in 35 games and held a high +/- rating.

During Klinge's sophomore year he played 31 games for the 16U team and kept his consistently strong defensive play and also totaled a few assists.

Klinge's defense and hard shot helped him earn a spot on the Saint Ignatius team in his junior year. Klinge will learn the ropes this season while improving his craft and should help anchor the defense next season.



2018-19 Jesuit Cup Champions (Chicago, IL)

#18 Charlie Erbs

DEFENSEMAN

5'11-170 LBS. SENIOR

THIRD YEAR LETTERMAN

Charlie Erbs and Clay Gazdak have been paired together for the better part of three years. Erbs and Gazdak complement each other like peanut butter and jelly. Erbs, a Strongsville native, attended St. Albert the Great for grade school. Charlie grew up playing for the Cleveland Jr. Lumberjacks. Erbs will enter the ROTC program at Ohio University. Charlie's parents are Chuck and Joann and he has three siblings named Jack, Joey, and Ava. Erbs enjoys fishing and hanging out with friends. Charlie is an avid fan of the Columbus Blue Jackets and Boston Bruins. Erbs chose Saint Ignatius for the academics, athletics, and friends.

As a freshman Erbs was one of the top defensemen on the Cleveland Wildcats 15U, while adding 10 points from the blue line.

Erbs had 8 points for the 16U team his sophomore year before making the Saint Ignatius team in November. Charlie played in 38 games as a sophomore and compiled 5 points including 4 assists. Erbs' first career goal came in the playoffs versus Midview.

Charlie's offensive production increased as a junior. Erbs more than doubled his offensive stats to 11 points. Charlie scored two key goals in the state Frozen Four, as he scored one apiece against Sylvania Northview and Dublin Jerome.

Erbs' consistent defense and blooming offensive play make him a Wildcat to Watch for his senior season. Charlie is the most coachable man you will find and is beloved by his teammates.



Charlie Erbs (left) manning the blue line before a faceoff.

#20 Rory Zawadzki

FORWARD

6'2-185 LBS.

SENIOR

THIRD YEAR LETTERMAN

Rory Zawadzki is a third year letter who has been through it all and seen it all. Zawadzki, an Avon Lake native, attended Saint Raphael for grade school. Rory hopes to attend Ohio State, Pitt, or Miami to major in pre-dentistry, business, or analytics. Zawadzki grew up playing hockey for the Cleveland Jr. Lumberjacks. Rory's parents are Greg and Missy, and he has a younger sister named Gwen and his younger brother and Wildcat forward, Owen. Zawadzki enjoys golfing and spikeball. Rory is a fan of the Columbus Blue Jackets. Zawadzki chose Saint Ignatius for the academics and athletics.

As a freshman, Rory put up 37 points for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U team.

Sophomore year, Rory posted 31 pre-season points at the 16U level before making the Prep team. He had 7 points for Saint Ignatius, including a state semi-final assist.

Zawadzki again had 31 points for 16U in the pre-season and continued to improve all aspects of his game for Saint Ignatius and increased his point production.

Rory's most complete form will come out this season. Zawadzki has always been a solid 200-foot player for the Wildcats and his point total is sure to climb his senior season. Zawadzki's line is made for scoring goals as he joins Alex Bilardo and Matt Sullivan.



Rory Zawadzki (left) has nifty hands around the net.

#21 Ryce Federle

DEFENSEMAN

6'0-170 LBS. SENIOR

FIRST YEAR LETTERMAN

Ryce Federle is the classic Wildcat defenseman - he makes the right plays and doesn't seek any credit. Federle grew up in Avon Lake and attended St. Raphael. Ryce hopes to go to Dayton or Miami to study Communications. Federle grew up playing hockey for Rocky River. Ryce's parents are Andy and Heather, and Ryce has three siblings named Mia, Ian, and Garrett. Federle enjoys doing SIBN, scuba diving, and running. Ryce is a huge Columbus Blue Jackets fan and likes to attend games with his family. Federle chose Saint Ignatius for the great education and family feel.

Ryce played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U as a freshman. Federle provided 15 assists and 2 goals from the blue line.

As a sophomore, Ryce had 6 points for the 16U team in the pre-season before spending most of the winter season with the Saint Ignatius Blue team. His hard work earned Ryce a post-season call-up to the Saint Ignatius Varsity team.

Federle's junior year he was the captain of Cleveland Wildcats Blue. Ryce had 16 points and anchored the Wildcat defense.

Ryce is a strong, lean defenseman. Federle has quick hands and good vision which makes him a threat on both ends of the ice. Ryce specializes in killing penalties as a defenseman and is poised to have a fine senior season on the Prep team.



At the Notre Dame-Michigan Winter Classic Game in 2018-19.

#22 Aidan Millett

FORWARD

5'10-180 LBS. SENIOR

THIRD YEAR LETTERMAN

Aidan Millett is a bulldog. Millett's physicality and determination are respected throughout the locker room. Aidan lives in Lakewood and attended Bay Village for grade school. Millett grew up playing hockey for the Cleveland Jr. Lumberjacks. Aidan would like to study business or pursue junior hockey. Millett's parents are Dave and Maureen and he has two sisters named Maggie and Riley. Aidan enjoys hanging out with friends and golfing. Millett is a fan of the Chicago Blackhawks. Aidan chose Saint Ignatius for the academics, athletics, and friends.

As a freshman, Millett played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U. Aidan's 40 points were near the top of the team rankings.

Aidan made the Saint Ignatius team as a sophomore. Millett played in 39 games and totaled 18 points. Aidan scored huge goals against Brighton and Hartland in the regular season. Millett also scored the first goal of both the District Final and State Final.

Millett ranked fourth on the team in goals as a junior and he provided 27 points total. Aidan's penalty minutes also dropped in half.

Aidan Millett, a member of the vaunted gold line, will be a leader of this strong Wildcat forward group. Millett's goal-scoring and vision have led to him also being named a member of the power play unit.



Aidan Millett (left) waiting for a puck in the slot.

#23 Joey Morford

FORWARD

5'10-175 LBS. SENIOR

FIRST YEAR LETTERMAN

Joey Morford may take the cake as the most athletic player on the team. Morford attended grade at Shaker Heights, which is also his hometown. Joey is committed to St. Joseph's (PA) for lacrosse as a FOGO. Morford will major in business or sports marketing. Joey grew up playing for the Cleveland Barons. Morford's parents are Joe and Sheri, and Joey has three siblings named Sam, Max '14, and Jess. Joey enjoys lacrosse, piano, and hanging out with girls. Morford's favorite team is the Dallas Stars. Joey chose Saint Ignatius for the atmosphere.

Morford is a product of the Cleveland Wildcats' program. Joey's first two years in the program he played 15U and totaled 43 points and was a captain of the team as a sophomore.

Joey moved up to the Cleveland Wildcats Blue and totaled 43 points as a junior.

Senior year, Joey made the Prep team out of camp and is a key member of the gray line. Morford is skilled enough to make any play and also has a knack for killing penalties. Joey plays the game smart, works hard in the D-zone, and should have a very nice senior season.



Near the Golden Dome on our walking tour of Notre Dame campus in 2018-19.

#25 Chuckie Wilson

FORWARD

5'10-155 LBS. JUNIORFIRST YEAR LETTERMAN

Chuckie Wilson is a coach's dream. Wilson can play physical, make the needed pass, kill penalties, and especially score. Chuckie spent his grade school years at Cuyahoga Heights. Wilson hopes to attend Ohio State, Akron, or Miami to major in architecture or civil engineering. Chuckie grew up playing for the Cleveland Barons. Wilson's parents are Chuck and Linda and he has three sisters named Taylor, Brooke, and Lauryn. Chuckie enjoys snowboarding, soccer, and baseball. Wilson's favorite NHL team is the Columbus Blue Jackets. Chuckie chose Saint Ignatius for the great education and great community of people.

Wilson's freshman year he played for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U. Chuckie recorded 40 points which was good for second on the team.

Sophomore year, Chuckie split time throughout all the Cleveland Wildcat program teams and he succeeded. Wilson recorded 61 points throughout the season. Chuckie was one of the biggest reasons the Blue team enjoyed such great success. Wilson's penalty kill attack with Christian Radke was fruitful as the duo produced countless penalty kill goals.

Wilson is a name you should learn. Similar in playing style to his friend Erik Galauner, Chuckie can rack up the points. Wilson has speed to burn and an aggressive style. Alongside white line buddies Radke and Cook, Wilson will thrive.



Moments after the final buzzer sounded at Nationwide Arena.

#30 Zak Kovatch

GOALTENDER 5'10-175 LBS. SENIOR SECOND YEAR LETTERMAN

Zak Kovatch has prepared for this year since the first time he laced his goalie pads. Kovatch, a Brunswick native, attended Willetts Middle School. Zak grew up playing for the Strongsville Mustangs and Cleveland Barons. Kovatch would like to study Actuarial Studies at Ohio State, Cincinnati, or Bowling Green. Zak's parents are Jerry and Chris, and "Kovi" has a brother named Kyle. Kovatch enjoys spikeball, video games, and hanging out with the fellas. Zak is a fan of the Detroit Red Wings and he is a fan of Curtis Joseph. Kovatch chose Saint Ignatius for the academics.

Kovatch split time in between the pipes his freshman year with current USHL netminder Colin Purcell for the Cleveland Wildcats 15U team. In 26 games Kovatch recorded a .863 SV%.

For the 16U team as a sophomore, Kovatch recorded a respectable 3.09 GAA. Zak's favorite win of the year, however, came for the Blue team, when he had a 56-save performance against Bethel Park.

Zak made leaps and bounds his junior year once he made the Saint Ignatius team. Kovatch recorded a win in his first career start and also had an impressive performance against Shady Side Academy. Kovatch played 8 games and had a 4-2-0 record with a 3.00 GAA. Kovi posted a career-high .870 SV%.

Kovatch learned under Benny Savarino and is ready for his starting campaign. Zak knows what to do and how to do it and has improved even further throughout summer. Kovatch is a Wildcat to Watch for the 2019-2020 season.



#31 Aidan McLaughlin

GOALTENDER 5'6-170 LBS. JUNIORFIRST YEAR LETTERMAN

Aidan McLaughlin attended St. Anselm for grade school. Aidan would like to attend Ohio State, Miami, or Bowling Green to major in business or pre-dentistry. McLaughlin grew up playing for the Cleveland Jr. Lumberjacks and Cleveland Barons. Aidan's parents are Tom and Debby, and he has two sisters named Kaley and Kiera. McLaughlin enjoys fishing, baseball, and working on cars. Aidan's favorite team is the Columbus Blue Jackets. McLaughlin chose Saint Ignatius for the great academics and atmosphere.

McLaughlin spent the previous two years in the Cleveland Wildcats program and posted a 3.00 GAA last season.

#35 Dawson Mohr

GOALTENDER 6'0-180 LBS. JUNIORFIRST YEAR LETTERMAN

Dawson Mohr will share back-up duties with Aidan McLaughlin this season. Mohr attended Avon for grade school. Dawson would like to attend Ohio State or Michigan State to major in business. Mohr played his youth hockey for the Cleveland Barons. Dawson's parents are Ray and Diane and he has a sister named Alexa. Mohr likes hiking, music, and fishing. Dawson's favorite team is the Nashville Predators. Mohr chose Saint Ignatius for the great education, teachers, and campus.

Dawson was a member of the Cleveland Wildcats program the last two seasons. Mohr posted high save percentages both seasons of .883% and .908%.



Future Wildcat Hockey players at our 2019 Summer Camp.

MEET THE MANAGERS/BROADCASTERS

JACK O'ROURKE

Jack O'Rourke begins his fourth and final year broadcasting and managing Saint Ignatius hockey. Since the 2016-17 season, Jack has broadcasted Saint Ignatius hockey, accompanied most of the time by his friend Patrick Keane. Jack would like to attend John Carroll University or Canisius College to pursue a sports broadcasting career. In his free time, Jack loves to watch the Indians or Notre Dame football, and spend time with his friends and family.

ABOUT JACK

Grade School:	St. Angela Merici
Hometown:	Fairview Park, Ohio
Sports broadcasted at SIHS:	Hockey, Baseball, Football, Soccer, Lacrosse, Volleyball
Favorite hockey broadcasting memory:	Millett DF goal vs. Saint Edward or Erbs SSF goal vs. Northview
Favorite movie:	The Shawshank Redemption, Se7en, Dark Knight
Favorite song:	Me & Bobby McGee- Janis Joplin, Through the Wire- Kanye West
Favorite NHL team:	Vegas Golden Knights
Favorite athlete:	Jonathan Marchessault

PATRICK KEANE

Patrick Keane starts his fourth and final year of broadcasting and managing Saint Ignatius hockey. Since freshman year, when Pat signed up because he liked the team jacket, Pat has come to love the sport of hockey. Pat was originally a stat taker with a pen and book, before quickly becoming the videographer, a role he has to this day. Pat also plays quarterback for the Saint Ignatius football team and plays rugby as well. In college, Pat hopes to continue sports broadcasting or go into business.

ABOUT PAT

Grade School:	Our Lady of Angels
Hometown:	Cleveland, Ohio
Sports broadcasted at SIHS:	Hockey, Baseball
Favorite hockey broadcasting memory:	Sophomore year state championship game
Favorite movie:	Ferris Buehler's Day Off
Favorite song:	Memories- Maroon 5
Favorite NHL team:	Chicago Blackhawks
Favorite NHL player:	Patrick Kane

JOSH MACIU

ABOUT JOSH

Grade School:	St. Bernadette
Hometown:	Cleveland, Ohio
Favorite hockey memory:	U15 Canada tournament
Favorite movie:	Borat
Favorite song:	Southern Style- Darius Rucker
Favorite NHL team:	Washington Capitals
Favorite NHL player:	Alexander Ovechkin

Josh Maciu has hung up the skates to become a hockey manager. Maciu grew up playing hockey for the Rocky River Pirates before transitioning to the Cleveland Wildcat program. Josh's hobbies include fishing and video games. Maciu became a manager because he wanted to stay involved in the hockey program.

MAC SPELLACY

ABOUT MAC

Grade School:	St. Mark
Hometown:	Lakewood, Ohio
Favorite hockey memory:	All the road trips
Favorite movie:	Miracle
Favorite song:	Dream On- Aerosmith
Favorite NHL team:	Washington Capitals
Favorite NHL player:	Alexander Ovechkin

Mac Spellacy is a third year hockey manager. Known for his humor, he is beloved by the team and coaches. Spellacy got involved in the hockey program because of friends and family legacy in the program.



Running with the Cats at Edgewater Park - Fall of 2019

MAX MARAZZI

ABOUT MAX

Grade School:	Our Lady of Angels
Hometown:	Cleveland, Ohio
Sports broadcasted at SIHS:	Hockey
Favorite hockey memory:	Millett's goals
Favorite movie:	Remember the Titans
Favorite song:	Dreams and Nightmares- Meek Mill
Favorite NHL team:	Philadelphia Flyers
Favorite athlete:	D'Angelo Russell

Max Marazzi is a third year hockey manager. Marazzi joined as a sophomore after being prompted by Aidan Millett. Max is helpful around the locker room and is known for his Madden skills.



Summer 2019 workouts on the beach at Edgewater Park

Wildcats Cap Historic 4-Peat with 7-2 Win Over Dublin Jerome

Your family is who you spend time with and who always has your back. They are the people you live and die by, the people you share interests and life with. Family never dies.

Since the end of November, the gray Saint Ignatius hockey team shirt for the 2018-19 season had the word “Family” written on the back. This family spent three practices a week, one film session per week, and countless games together. In other words, this family is always around each other. This family travelled through four different states and two countries. This family grew together to form an unbreakable bond that ended in a state championship.

After beating Holy Name 6-0, the Wildcats spent their last week together preparing for Sylvania Northview. This family knew they had, at most, two last games together, and they were determined to not let anyone send them home without achieving the ultimate goal.

The Ice Cats donned their home white uniforms and graced the ice at Nationwide Arena on Friday for the state semifinal, for what could’ve been their last time together. Benny Savarino, behind his mask, stared menacingly across the ice for what could have been the legend’s final start.

After back and forth play, the two teams were knotted at zero after a few rough minutes of feeling out each other’s playing style. The Wildcats’ quick and hard playing style won out after an early struggle for power.

A leader and playmaker who had made his name known all season cut into the offensive zone. Michael Boehm moved into the zone from the side of the rink opposite the benches and cut into the middle of the slot. Camden Kurtz, a silent yet deadly weapon in the Wildcats’ offense, lingered behind Boehm awaiting his chance. Boehm made a drop pass behind himself to Kurtz, who had enough room to take his time on his shot. Kurtz whipped a shot blocker-side and the puck raced into the back of the net.

Kurtz raised his hands in the air as chaos ensued and he jumped into the arms of linemate Aidan Millett.

“Michael came up the ice with speed,” said Kurtz. “He dropped the puck to me and I had a lot of space and I was able to put it in the back of the net.”

Minutes later, after the Northview Wildcats’ goalie saved a shot from the point, the puck squeaked through his blocker to an awaiting Alex Bilardo. The junior with a nose for the net tapped home the rebound and celebrated with his team. Bilardo, just as he did in last year’s state semifinal, formed his two arms into a drawn heart and punched through it, similar to a celebration by Patrick Kane of the Chicago Blackhawks.

"I passed the puck up to Michael and he just threw the puck on net," said Bilardo. "It hit the post and went right to me, and I knocked it in."

Before the first period concluded, the Wildcats kept up their constant pressure.

The common theme of rebound goals continued as an Aidan Millett shot was forced loose in front of the net, which resulted in Erik Galauner gaining possession of the puck and finding twine with the rebound. Galauner, the Wildcats' lone sophomore forward, drew his bow and arrow in celebration of what will surely be a memorable goal.

"I was just standing in front of the net and Millett took a nice shot," said Galauner. "Millett's shot was integral in me getting a goal."

Camden Kurtz put the game away in shades of his brother Bain. Two of the most athletic goals in Wildcat history came from the exact same spot on the ice, only one year apart. As a senior, Bain batted a puck out of the air in the state final last year, in what is one of the most memorable goals in Wildcat history. Cam, not to be outdone, caught a rebound with one hand and knocked it down and jammed a rebound home, improving the Wildcat lead to four.

"Millett took a shot that hit off the goalie and went into the air," said Kurtz. "I kind of batted it to the ice and chipped it over the goalie's shoulder."

A high-powered offense and strong play from Benny Savarino resulted in a 4-0 lead after one period.

A second-period power play would play a decisive role in the Wildcats advancing to the state final.

Star Wildcat forward Alex Bilardo continued his tear with roommate Cam Kurtz, as Bilardo whipped home a rebound to extend the Wildcat lead to 5-0. Bilardo, who finished the season with 37 points, held a lethal touch in the state semifinal and was a huge contributor in the Wildcat win. Bilardo gave a Joey Bosa-esque shrug following his second-period goal.

"A shot came from the point on the power play and Joey nicked the rebound," said Bilardo. "The puck was sitting on the backdoor and I just put it top shelf."

Outshooting and possessing their opponents, the Wildcats were dominant through two periods, and two of the hardest-working players on the team would add third-period goals.

Matt Sullivan and captain Connor McGowan worked a puck loose to the front of the net, and the Wildcat duo found defenseman Charlie Erbs. Erbs switched the puck between his legs and backhanded a shot past the goalie before falling to the ice.

After the game, Erbs was in shock as he said he did not even know the puck went in until he heard the goal horn at Nationwide Arena, and he had realized he scored.

"McGowan tried passing it to me in the slot and it got tipped," said Erbs. "It ended up on my backhand and I just hit it toward the net and somehow it went in."

Later in the period, one of the hardest workers in the hockey program, Pat Eppich, was killing a penalty. As the puck cleared the defensive zone, Eppich found himself with time and space, and as he was taken down from behind, Eppich sniped the goalie with assists coming from Bilardo and Clay Gazdak.

"Truly an amazing experience," said Eppich. "I didn't think it was going in until after I saw the net fly, and I didn't know what to do. Best experience of my life to hear that horn sound and the music start playing."

Benny Savarino posted his last career shutout, and the Wildcats won 7-0, advancing to the state championship.

The family mentioned above would not let anyone stop them from their mission.

Dublin Jerome, an upstart team who had beaten University School in OT, became the first Central Ohio team in modern OHSAA hockey history to advance to the state final. Jerome, who brought a massive student section and seemed prime for a big finish, ran into a Wildcat buzzsaw.

Almost immediately, the Wildcats family drew first blood in the state title game. Michael Boehm, the Wildcats' top playmaker, found an apple on the first goal for a second straight game. Boehm made a pass to Matt Sullivan, who had an open shot from the circle. The Gesu graduate found a needle in a haystack, as he exploited a small opening, and Sullivan had the Wildcat faithful going crazy.

"Mike gave me a great pass and I was lucky to get a shot through the D and to the net," said Sullivan. "I was really happy to get things started early in the game."

On a first-period power play, Erik Galauner cut across the circle and sent a pass down low to Alex Bilardo, who in turn fired a precise pass to Joey Trobenter. Trobenter, in his last game as a Wildcat, sent a no-doubter past the goalie on the blocker side to increase the lead to 2-0 at the conclusion of one period.

Trobenter had a quick turnaround, as he improved the Wildcat lead to 3-0, scoring an early second-period goal.

Following his state semifinal goal, Charlie Erbs responded with another goal in the final. Camden Kurtz sent a pass to Erbs, who switched the puck to his backhand and eluded the Celtic goaltender.

"I blocked the pass and Michael chipped it up to Cam," said Erbs. "Cam did all the work getting around the guy and moving the puck to me in the slot. I was lucky to beat the goalie on my backhand."

After Erbs scored, a Wildcat four-peat seemed likely, but the Celtics had an answer to the Wildcats. The Celtics found the back of the net on a power play and a breakaway goal, and the Wildcats' lead was reduced to 4-2. The score stood the same at the end of two periods.

In what was undoubtedly his best game as a Wildcat, Trobenter added a hat trick goal, scoring one in each period. Trobenter sealed the deal on a Wildcat win with his third-period goal, a backbreaker just 20 seconds into the stanza.

"I just walked it across the blue line and ripped it home." said Trobenter.

Having scored a goal in the state final the year before, Greg Langermeier added a sixth goal, and Camden Kurtz scored as well to take a five-goal lead.

"We had a nice 3-goal lead, but we weren't done playing our game," said Langermeier. "I was trailing Boehmer and he gave me a great pass that I caught and buried inside the post."

As the third period came to a close, the buzzer went off at Nationwide Arena, and Charlie Klenkar mobbed Benny Savarino. The senior netminder finishes as the record-holder for career saves (1,994), saves in a season (711), and career wins (70).

Congratulations to the Wildcats' players, coaches, and staff on a well-deserved fourth consecutive state title.



The Spellacy Story:

Aidan's Journey from the Ice Cats to a College Scholarship

By Joe Ginley '12

In many ways, Aidan Spellacy '16 is a trailblazer. Plenty of talented Ice Cats have walked the halls of Saint Ignatius High School. But none had earned a college scholarship to play hockey.

The path to college hockey and the National Hockey League is a long and difficult one. The road requires young icers to forgo a college education in favor of playing for a junior league team. The journey exacts every ounce of energy and resilience, as the player spends a year or two far away from home with strangers.

Naysayers told Spellacy he could not do it. But Spellacy achieved his goal -- attaining a Division I college scholarship, and paving the way for current and future Ice Cats to follow in his footsteps. (For more on the development of the Saint Ignatius hockey program, see the feature story in the Saint Ignatius Magazine, mailing this week.)

On Tuesday, May 15, Spellacy announced his commitment to Robert Morris University. In doing so, Spellacy became the first Saint Ignatius varsity hockey player to earn a college hockey scholarship at a D1 school.

Spellacy's journey began at Saint Ignatius in the fall of 2012. Following his freshman year, Spellacy burst onto the scene as a sophomore. He notched 18 goals along with a team-best 36 assists in 2013-14, playing a key role in the program's second OHSAA Division I championship. Spellacy enjoyed a strong 2014-15 campaign as a junior, tallying 19 goals and 20 assists for 39 points, second on the team.

"Aidan was always a leader here, even before he became a 2-time captain," said O'Rourke. "He was focused at lifting, during practice drills, and during games. He tried to do things the right way, and he understood that while we always want to 'play fast,' that every drill wasn't a race or just something to get over with so we could move onto the next drill."

"Aidan truly tried to get better with every rep he took in practice, with every shift he took in a game. He played hurt, he inspired his teammates, he took the will out of the opponent with his relentlessness. Wow, did I love coaching him! When you have a player like that on your side, you know you're going to be tough to beat. Some of it he was born with, but most of it he earned by taking the approach he did, by working his tail off and getting better every day."

As a senior, Spellacy proved to be unstoppable. The Lakewood native topped the team with 34 goals and 61 points in a special season, helping to orchestrate another OHSAA Championship with Head Coach Pat O'Rourke '90 and the Ice Cats.

"Aidan chose to play for his beloved high school with his friends and classmates," said O'Rourke. "Many people told him that he could never achieve his hockey dreams if he didn't walk away from us and take a different route. Aidan proved them all wrong and he ended up getting the best of both worlds."

The talented Ice Cat soon showed the naysayers how it's done.

An undrafted, non tendered free agent after completing his Wildcat career, Spellacy attended a camp with the Lone Star Brahmas of the North American Hockey League. A junior league team, the Brahmas took interest in Spellacy and signed him as a forward.

"I learned so much from Saint Ignatius," said Spellacy. "You develop into a complete person. Then you take what you've learned at Ignatius and apply it. I learned how to work hard and developed into a leader from Coach O'Rourke. I also learned how to win."

Spellacy applied the lessons learned from Wildcat High in his first year of juniors. Living a cool 1,200 miles away from home in Fort Worth, Texas, Spellacy had to adjust to the real world quickly.

Fortunately for Spellacy, all junior players are matched with a billet family. Spellacy bonded with his host family, Jordan and Sarah DeArmond and their two sons Justice (9) and Ryder (3). Spellacy became a son to Jordan & Sarah, and a brother to young Justice and Ryder.

The DeArmond family eased Spellacy's adjustment off the ice. Meanwhile, Spellacy worked hard on the ice to improve quickly.

"There was an adjustment to the pace of the game," said Spellacy. "You're playing against older, more skilled guys. I also didn't know anyone. I met people from different parts of the world -- Russia, Sweden, the Czech Republic. I met a lot of Michigan guys and guys from all over the United States."

At the end of his first season, Spellacy won the Robertson Cup with the Brahmas. Following an offseason of training, Spellacy entered his second year as an alternate captain and found his groove in year #2.

The 5'11", 175-pound forward developed an identity as a two-way forward. Spellacy's strong defense combined with offensive prowess made him a critical piece of the Brahmas. Spellacy proved to be a crucial member of the penalty kill while tallying 15 goals and recording 17 assists.

"I definitely grew a lot from last year to this year," Spellacy said in the Brahmas' article on his commitment to RMU. "From the mental side of seeing plays and slowing things down and being able to make plays and have a lot of ice time helped a lot. Being in a leadership role, guys kind of look to you and you gotta lead by example and that's what I pride myself on -- leading by example."

Coach O'Rourke first glimpsed Spellacy's intangibles years ago at Saint Ignatius.

"While he is certainly very talented, Aidan will be the first to tell you he is not the tallest, heaviest, or most skilled hockey player in the country," O'Rourke said. "But what he has in spades are all the intangibles you love to see as a coach - toughness, character, humility, insatiable work ethic, and so on."

Towards the end of the 2017-18 season, Robert Morris began to show keen interest in Spellacy. RMU scouted Spellacy several times, taking note of his skillset and work ethic on the ice.

This past Monday, RMU Head Coach Derek Schooley, entering his 15th season with the Colonials, called Spellacy to offer him a scholarship. On Tuesday, Spellacy called him back to commit.

"It's pretty crazy," said Spellacy. "You look for good people. I talked to the coaches for a while. I came to the conclusion -- they were good people, RMU is a dominant program, and it's a great school. Plus, the school is close to home for a change vs. Texas."

Looking back, Spellacy will never forget his time in juniors.

"It was a great experience," Spellacy said. "I met great people and developed as a person. Everyone made me feel comfortable, especially my billet family. An unbelievable experience with great people."

Now, Spellacy's focus will turn forward to college hockey. Playing at RMU will have its advantages, including an opportunity for his family to watch him play. Just outside of Pittsburgh, RMU is only about a two-hour drive.

Much work still awaits the young man from Lakewood. But Spellacy is ready for the challenge.

"I'm thrilled about the hockey," said Spellacy. "There is plenty of hard work to put in. The hockey will be fun with a lot of good guys. I'm excited to get back to school. I missed it, I'm excited for school."

Spellacy plans on majoring in business at RMU as he enters as a college freshman. In the meantime, Spellacy is back at home, skating and working out 3-4 days a week while also holding down a side job.

Spellacy could not be more thankful to Coach O'Rourke and the coaching staff at Saint Ignatius for helping him achieve his dreams and reach this stage of his journey.

"I just want to thank Coach O'Rourke and the Ignatius hockey program for everything they have done for me," Spellacy said. "I would not be here without Coach O'Rourke. He's a stern coach on the bench and on the ice, but he's a great guy off of it. I also want to thank my parents. They have supported me so much over the last couple years, I'm very thankful for them."

The commitment to RMU is certainly spectacular news for Spellacy. The news also holds promise for the Ice Cats. It shows the myriad of current Saint Ignatius hockey players currently trying out for NAHL and USHL teams that the juniors path can lead to success. And Spellacy is just getting started.

"I don't think this is the end of Aidan's journey - it's just the beginning," O'Rourke said. "I can't wait to make the 2-hour drive to Pittsburgh to watch him play, and you can be sure I will tell my players about him often as more and more of them aspire to play junior and college hockey after playing for Saint Ignatius."

"Aidan is living proof that it can be done, and he will be our role model for many years to come," O'Rourke continued. "We still haven't assigned his #8 jersey to another prep player since he's left, and honestly, I don't know that we will any time soon. I call that respect and I tip my hat to him. Aidan set himself a goal and he wouldn't be denied until he achieved it. I talk all the time to my children and my Latin students and my players about surrounding yourself with winners. Anyone who comes into Aidan's sphere of influence will be in good hands, that's for sure. He comes from a great family, a great Ignatius family, and we couldn't be more happy for him and more proud of him. Congrats, Aidan!"

As for Spellacy, he's excited for the future, but taking it one step at a time.

"I'm a short-term, year-to-year thinker," said Spellacy. "I'm going to play as long as I can. I want to graduate college. If I can play hockey for a little while, then that's great."

HOCKEY SEASON PREVIEW by Jack O'Rourke '20

“We are Family” is a famous song from the 1970s-80s group Sister Sledge. Few songs, movies, and books from popular culture can beat “We are Family” when talking about the 2019-20 Saint Ignatius hockey team.

Not many teams in any sport are ever given the chance to five-peat. The grizzled, veteran Saint Ignatius hockey team will be given their shot at history this season. The Wildcats, under the helm of Head Coach Pat O'Rourke '90, have been waiting for months to take another ride with their family.

The family atmosphere of this team is what will set them apart from others in the past. This group of mostly returners who best friends with one another, from the players, coaches, parents, and team managers.

Expect a high-scoring and fast-paced Wildcat offensive attack this season. The Wildcats return seven forwards from last season and have added six new forwards. The Wildcats' first line - Erik Galauner, Cam Kurtz, and Aidan Millett - is primed for another year of putting pucks past goalies. This will be their second year playing together. Galauner took the world by storm as a sophomore by consistently scoring goals. Kurtz, an alternate captain, is known for his playmaking abilities and will rack up the point totals. Millett always seems to find the puck on his stick and is no stranger to scoring goals when it matters most.

“They were together last year, so they should have good chemistry,” said O'Rourke. “All three of those guys can score.”

Alex Bilardo, Matt Sullivan, and Rory Zawadzki make up the only all-senior line for the Ice Cats.

“This is another power play line,” said O'Rourke '90. “They’re an all-senior line and they will be potent.”

Bilardo, known for his scoring ability, has also formed a leadership role with the Wildcats and was named an alternate captain for this season. Sullivan made the jump to the Saint Ignatius hockey program last season and brings a grittiness to the second line. Sullivan also has the ability to score at a moment’s notice, as seen in last year’s state title bout. Zawadzki is the true definition as a veteran and has been no stranger to playing with anyone on this team. Rory’s quick hands and ice vision will make a difference on the second line.

“The line to watch for our fans might be the Cook-Radke-Wilson line,” said O'Rourke '90. “They are just as good as the other two lines, but they are penalty killers. We can also sub them into our power play if we want to.”

Coach O'Rourke wasn't kidding when he said to watch out for this line. The Saint Ignatius third line plays a fast-paced game with some physicality that would make Herb Brooks smile. The difference from this line to most third lines in the sport of hockey is these three know how to score. The Wildcats' third line provided seven goals last weekend during scrimmages. Danny Cook, the unanimous most improved player of the offseason, has quick hands and a high hockey IQ. Cook's abilities will help him anchor this line. Christian Radke is a scrappy senior who also knows where to find the puck and has been dishing out the puck to the right place all pre season long. Chuckie Wilson is lightning quick and has the hands to match and perfectly complements his linemates.

Not to be outdone, the Wildcats fourth line, which is full of newcomers, will see their fair share of ice time and surprise other teams. Matt DiMarco, a hard-working senior, boasts a hard shot that will produce either goals or ample rebounds. Joey Morford, a Division I lacrosse commit, is as athletic as they come and is another player who just seems to always be in the right place at the right time. Gordon Gray is a determined junior who plays a physical style and never takes a second off. Gray is a true "Energizer Bunny" as Coach O'Rourke likes to say. Owen Zawadzki brings added skills to this line and has a sneaky hard shot.

"We have the gray line," said O'Rourke '90. "They are an energy line, and have looked good so far playing together."

Coaches Bryan Schoenholz and Brian Holz will lead the forwards this season. Schoenholz is a long-time member of the coaching staff whose grit and care have gone a long way towards the Wildcats' success. Holz, a former player of Coach O'Rourke's, also has tons of respect from the players because much like Schoenholz and O'Rourke, Holz has been known to hop in a drill from time to time and put on a show.

Defensively, the Wildcats are also led by a core group of veterans. Two of the best defensemen in Saint Ignatius history, Michael Boehm and Greg Langermeier, will lead the blueliners. Boehm and Langermeier, the two Wildcat captains, have earned four letters and have seen it all. Boehm, a Michigan lacrosse commit, is a vocal leader in the locker room. Boehm's shifty play and smart decision-making has made him one of the premier defensemen in the state. Langermeier, who will be returning from injury in a month, is known for his hard hitting and ability to make wizardry with the puck.

"Boehm kind of quarterbacks everything from back there," said O'Rourke '90. "He settles everything down in the D-Zone. He helps break the puck out, carries it up the ice, and he creates and plays 200 feet which is a really nice luxury to have with him at defense. Greg will be out for another month, but once he comes back, everybody knows what Greg does. He changes the game with his physical presence and he can also score. Greg is another guy who can really play up and down the whole ice."

Charlie Erbs and Clay Gazdak have played together for the better part of four years. Erbs and Gazdak are another special defensive pair. The best of friends, they are two of the

most outstanding men you will ever meet. They also happen to be exceptional hockey players. Erbs and Gazdak have formed a special chemistry with one another that translates on the ice.

"Clay and Erbs are paired together a lot," said O'Rourke '90. "They are just rock solid and have improved every year since freshman year. Both do a really good job and are an elite pair of defensemen."

Fresh off the gridiron, the ever-consistent Aidan Conway returns for his third season. From the day he stepped into the locker room as a freshman, Conway has embodied Saint Ignatius hockey on and off the ice. Conway rarely makes mistakes on the ice, and what is even more valuable is that he always makes up for his mistakes.

"We're excited to have Conway back," said O'Rourke. "He is another solid, two-way defenseman for us."

The Wildcats also add three new defensemen this season. Senior Ryce Federle, formerly the captain of the Cleveland Wildcats Blue team, is consistent with the Saint Ignatius defensemen theme of doing his job correctly. Federle always makes the right play and brings speed defensively. Nathan Klinge, a junior, has a hard shot and has a very long reach with his pokecheck. JT Trobek, one of two sophomores to make the team, has a good set of skills that coaches love in a defenseman and also has great hands despite his young age.

"They all really have done well so far," said O'Rourke. "They all looked really good in the scrimmages."

O'Rourke and Robert Gramc will be in charge of the defensemen this season. Gramc is also the director of Player Development and Personnel for the Wildcats.

Zak Kovatch will be between the pipes for most starts this season. The senior learned under Benny Savarino last season and is primed for his senior season.

"Kovatch is in net," O'Rourke said. "He will be the starter. He has a really, really high compete level and continues to fight for the second and third rebounds - even in 3 on 0 drills."

Kovatch is excited for the opportunity to be the starter. "It's awesome," said Kovatch. "Especially being backup last year, it will be nice to start all those games. Last year, I went through all the practices and all the motions and I feel like I'm prepared."

Kovatch knows that against such a grueling schedule, it will be important to bounce back. "Mentally responding for me is huge," said Kovatch. "Usually right after a game it is pretty rough for me as I am very hard on myself because I expect the most from myself. I may be a little down on myself for a while because of a bad goal that I let in, but by the time it comes for the next game I am locked in and that game is gone. The next game is going to be my best game and I am going to come back harder and better."

Juniors Dawson Mohr and Aidan McLaughlin will back up Kovatch. The two-headed monster will do a good job in games Kovatch doesn't play. Both goalies started for different teams in the Cleveland Wildcats program last season and posted impressive numbers.

"They are both juniors," said Coach O'Rourke. "We've seen a little bit of Aidan in the pre season and he played very well against Liberty and faced some power plays (including a 5 on 3) and made some key saves. We haven't seen as much from Dawson as he has been battling an injury."

Ed Zdolshek '09 will be in charge of the three netminders. Zdolshek was a four-year starter under Coach O'Rourke before playing collegiate hockey at Nazareth. Coach O'Rourke went as far as to call Zdolshek "the best goalie coach in the state."

Coach Joe Geither will be in charge of statistics and O'Rourke's right-hand man. His sons Liam and Matty enjoyed storied careers as Wildcat forwards and his son Adam is back in town and working successfully in professional sports.

The Wildcats will return four team managers from last season. Jack O'Rourke and Pat Keane will resume their fourth year of managing and broadcasting and don't plan on missing a game. Mac Spellacy and Max Marazzi will begin their third and final years as managers. Spellacy continues the long line of hockey history at Saint Ignatius. Senior Josh Maciu joins the brigade for this season.

Wildcat home games are played at the John M. Coyne Recreation Center in Brooklyn.



Aidan Spellacy '16 is currently playing for Division 1 Robert Morris

Saint Ignatius

Alma Mater

Our famed alma mater graces
Every shrine within our hearts
With her unforgotten faces
And the faith that she imparts.

Years in passing cannot sever
Ties of new days from the old.
We're Ignatius men forever
As we hail the blue and gold.

