

NEPSGBA INSIDER

The Official Newsletter of the NEPSAC Girls Basketball Assoc



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NEPSGBA CURRENT RANKING

as of 2/4/24

Class AA	Class A	Class B	Class C	Class D
Nobles	Loomis	St Georges	WMA	Watkinson
Southfield	Kent	BCDS	Brewster	CCA
Tilton	Sacred Heart	Lawrence	Hamden Hall	Vermont
Tabor	Hotchkiss	Suffield	Holderness	Rocky Hill
Worcester	Thayer	Governors	Harvey	Woodward
Hoosac	Choate	GFA	Millbrook	Forman
New Hampton	Exeter	St Lukes	KUA	Darrow
Rivers	Miss Porter's	Ethel Walker	Montrose	Hyde
NMH	BB&N	Cushing	Berwick	Bancroft
Storm King	Dana Hall	Concord	Wooster	Christian Heritage
		Brooks	Landmark	
		KO	Canterbury	
		Williston		
		Cheshire		
		Pingree		

Standings as of 2/5/24



As we head into the final stretch of the season, excitement is building as teams jockey for position in the conference standings. With only a few weeks left before the postseason tournament, every matchup becomes crucial in determining playoff seeding and eventual championship contention.

It's essential to remember that our conference standings are determined by the Composite Power Index (CPI). This index takes into account various factors, including: RPI, Saylor's, Head to Head wins vs. Teams in Class in Contention, Games vs. Top 40 and Wins vs. Top 40. (See full article in our Jan 30th issue)

It is important to note that the conference standings are fluid and can change with each game result.

The top eight seeds will qualify for the tournament, setting the stage for an exhilarating display of the top talent NEPSAC Girls Basketball is known for as teams vie for the championship title. Championship games for all six classes will be held during Super Sunday at Nobles on March 3rd.

As the season progresses, stay tuned to the NEPSGBA Insider as well as our social media accounts @NEPSGBCA for regular updates on the conference standings, game highlights, and updates on our student-athletes.



Photo Credit; UMass Lowell Womens's Basketball

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

by Ayo Hart

improving ball handling skills, and mastering rebounding techniques.

She expressed immense gratitude for her experience at Hamden Hall, "Hamden Hall allowed me to have a great coaching experience that gave me a lot of one-on-one training to be able to prepare for the collegiate level. It also allowed me to have a balance between academics and athletics. Which I think gave me a head start on being able to have time management."

Rayne Durant, Hamden Hall Class of 2023, is currently making waves as a freshman starting for the UMass Lowell women's basketball team. I had the privilege of interviewing both Rayne and her high school coach, Brian Johnson, head coach at Hamden Hall, to gain insights into Rayne's journey from NEPSAC to her current collegiate success.

Coach Johnson spoke highly of Rayne's exceptional skills and impact on the court. He noted, "Rayne had instincts that you can't teach on both sides of the ball. Her shot blocking ability and nose for the ball and over all intimidation defensively made Rayne different. That's why I called her "Big Rayne". Coach Johnson recalled standout moments from Rayne's high school career, including a memorable game against Dalton when Rayne went toe to toe with Mary Ashley Stevenson currently at Purdue, and of course the NEPSAC championship game, where Rayne's stellar performance earned her the MVP title for the game in addition to already claiming the NEPSAC Class C Player of the Year.

Johnson also emphasized Rayne's significant presence within the team and her contributions to the team culture. According to Coach Johnson, Rayne's work ethic and dedication to improving her game were key factors in her success. He highlighted the importance of conditioning, footwork, and expanding her skill set to prepare Rayne for the collegiate level.

As Rayne set off to join the River Hawks, Coach Johnson's advice to her was to "just work hard, be a good teammate, and a good listener." He also emphasized the importance of loving the game and maintaining a positive attitude, which he says he recognized in Rayne early in her career.

Rayne attributes her success to hard work and preparation. She highlighted the importance of putting in extra effort in shooting practice,

Rayne's advice to current NEPSAC student-athletes is "always to have an open mind and be able to take in information. You have to be coachable and always willing to learn on and off the court. The more you take in the good information the better outcome you will have."

Team culture has always been a significant aspect of Rayne's experience, and that has not changed at UMass Lowell. She credits her current coaches for fostering a supportive environment where players feel valued and connected beyond basketball. She chose UMass Lowell because "it felt like a home away from home."

"Her shot blocking ability and nose for the ball and over all intimidation defensively made Rayne different. That's why I called her "Big Rayne", Brian Johnson, Hamden Hall

Rayne Durant's journey from Hamden Hall to UMass Lowell exemplifies the dedication, hard work, and love for the game that define NEPSAC student-athletes. Her success serves as an inspiration to current and future players, highlighting the importance of skill development, trust, teamwork, and a positive attitude.

We wish Rayne continued success in her collegiate basketball career and beyond, and we are proud to celebrate her achievements as a NEPSAC alumna.



SAVE
THE
DATE

SUNDAY,
MARCH 3, 2024



WEEK ELEVEN IN NEPSAC

UPCOMING GAMES SAT 2/10

- 1:00 Hyde @ Dublin
- 2:30 Miss Porter's @ Berkshire
- 3:00 Beaver Country Day @ Brooks
- 3:00 Marianapolis @ Dexter Southfield
- 3:00 Suffield @ Sacred Heart Greenwich
- 3:00 Storm King @ Worcester Academy
- 3:00 Winchendon @ Hoosac
- 3:30 Watkinson @ Forman
- 4:30 Holderness @ Exeter
- 6:00 Austin Prep @ St. George's

SUPER SUNDAY 2024

NEPSAC CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ALL-STAR GAMES

A LOOK BACK AT RECENT GAMES

Rocky Hill 56
Austin Prep 53

Rocky Hill: Sophie Mahar - 12p; 3s; 3r; D!!!
Lily Sokol - 16p; 11r; 2b
Addie Mahar - 11p; 6r; 2a
Aliona Nikulina - 11p; 11r; 3b
Dariia Serednytska - 6p; 5r

Montrose 46
Newton Country Day 37

LCA 47
Bancroft 41

Rivers 45
Thayer - 36

Rivers - Chase Anderson '25: 10pts, 4r, 1a, 2b
Payton Richard '24: 9pts, 8r, 3a, 1s, 1b
Narissa Smith '25: 9pts, 3r, 2a
Grace O'Sullivan '25: 6pts, 4r, 2a, 3s
Lily Finton '26: 4p, 3r

Hoosac 65
Marianapolis 44

Marianapolis - Alanna Phillipio '24: 12 pts, 15r, 4a
Baileigh Kimball '27: 8 pts, 7 r, 4s,
Aryanna Sheehan '26: 6 pts, 5 r, 3a, 2 charges taken

Sacred Heart 55
Miss Porter's 38

Sacred Heart - Payton Sfredo: 17pt, 8r, 4s
Lucianna Parrotta '27: 14pts, 6r
Madison Hart '24: 9pts, 3r, 3a, 3s
Eva Wilkerson '25: 8pts in 7min
Ava Curto '26: 3pt, 3r, 5s

Miss Porter's - Mari Lee: 19pts, 10r
Isabel Grube: 11pts, 3r
Saige Chisholm '27: 6pts, 7r

Ethel Walker 39
Taft 36

Hotchkiss 52
Kent 48