NEPSGBA INSIDER

The Official Newsletter of the NEPSAC Girls Basketball Association



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4-PEAT COMPLETE: LOOMIS CHAFFEE KEEPS ROLLING

Written by Ayo Hart

For the fourth consecutive season, Loomis Chaffee Girls Basketball has etched its name in the history books, securing yet another NEPSAC Class A Championship. It is the first time a NEPSAC Girls Basketball team has dominated its class since Nobles lifted its class trophy each year from 2012 - 2017. This achievement serves as a testament to the unwavering dedication, resilience, and culture instilled by Head Coach Adrian Stewart and his staff. For three four-year players - Abby Congdon, Catherine Chadwell, and Izzy Cruz senior class - this championship marks a perfect four-for-four record—winning the title every year of their high school careers.

Reflecting on this historic milestone, Coach Stewart expressed immense pride in his team's journey. "I am so proud of this team. It was a total team effort from start to finish," Stewart said. "It is such a privilege to coach in this league, and to have the opportunity to finish the season as NEPSAC Class A champions is somewhat surreal. Our girls played hard, competitive basketball while having so much fun with each other. They earned it by having to face three teams a second

time through the tournament. I can't say that this year is any more important or impactful than any other year, but I am so happy for our four-year seniors who will leave Loomis having achieved something that hasn't been done at our school before."

While many might call Loomis Chaffee's run a dynasty, Stewart remains grounded in his approach, emphasizing the foundational values that have sustained the program's success. "We certainly don't approach any season thinking 'dynasty.' It's one season, one game, one practice, one rep at a time for us," he said. "Our keys to success have been open, honest, and direct communication, an excitement to compete, attention to detail, and a growth mindset."

A defining characteristic of the Loomis Chaffee program is its commitment to a team-first mentality. Each season, the program boasts Division I-level talent, yet the focus remains on collective success over individual accolades. "Everything we do on the court without the ball, both offensively and defensively, is in service to the team," Stewart explained. "Our mindset in the moment determines our actions, and our repetitive actions create habits. That's what sets us apart."

Senior captain Abby Congdon, a Tufts WBB commit and this year's NEPSAC Class A Player of the Year, has embodied these values throughout her career. "The feeling is almost indescribable," Congdon said of winning her fourth straight title. "The fact that it's never been done before, as well as having been a part of that history, is such an amazing feeling."

She credits the program's culture and the leadership of Coach Stewart for shaping her as both a player and a person. "Everyone can make an impact besides getting the ball into the hoop," she said. "That's been a key part of our success having everyone contribute, whether it's getting rebounds, making assists, driving to the paint, or bringing energy. Another big thing is pushing ourselves and our teammates at practice so that during games, it feels easier compared to playing against each other."

That relentless competitive drive in practice didn't just prepare the team for games—it strengthened their trust in one another. That bond extended beyond the court, shaping a team culture rooted in genuine friendship and shared experiences. The team's traditions such as pre-tournament meals at Buffalo Wild Wings and nightly team dinners throughout the winter helped to foster a familylike atmosphere that has been instrumental in their success. "After every practice or lift, we go to the dining hall and eat together," Congdon shared. "That's one of the biggest ways we bond—by spending so much time together outside of basketball."

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As Loomis Chaffee looks to the future, Coach Stewart remains focused on the next challenge. With seven seniors graduating, the program will enter a new chapter, but the foundational principles that have guided them to four straight championships will remain unchanged. "I am so looking forward to working with the kids who will be back next year," Stewart said. "We will continue to push each other to be our best selves as students, teammates, and athletes. Our standard will not change."

For aspiring student-athletes and young coaches, Stewart's advice is simple yet profound: For coaches, "Never compromise on the things you value in your culture.", and for young student-athletes, "Make sure your daily actions match your aspirations."



As we wrapped up and I asked Coach Stewart if there was anyone in particular he would like to shout out who has been pivotal in helping Loomis reach this level of success. he reflected that there were too many people to mention, but added "I will say that my wife and kids deserve the #1 shout out. Without their support of my obsession with what it takes to coach NEPSAC basketball, we wouldn't be having this exchange right now. I can't be more grateful for their understanding and support.

With another championship banner hanging in their gym, Loomis Chaffee's legacy is firmly established—but the work continues. And if history is any indication, the Stewart family should settle in for more fun years ahead as this program isn't slowing down anytime soon.

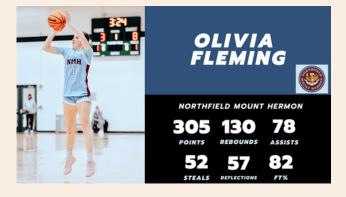


Photo Credit; Cloe Poisson

2025 NEPSAC PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

CLASS AAA CLASS AA





CLASS A





CLASS C



CLASS D



2024 - 2025 ALL - NEPSAC

