



Pope John Football



FAITH. FAMILY. FOOTBALL.



Pope John Lions

(2-8, 1-2 NJSFC United White)

No. 59 Max Preps NJ/NR NJ.com

Game #11: Non-Public, Group 3 semifinals

Nov. 10, 2018 - 6 p.m.

Count Basie Field

Red Bank, NJ

Last meeting: Pope John, 48-21

Nov. 12, 2016 - Pope John XXIII High School



Red Bank Catholic Caseys

(8-0, 5-0 Shore Conference)

No. 4 Max Preps NJ/No. 9 NJ.com

Head Coach: Brian Carlson

Record at Pope John (eighth season): 48-33

Career Record (eighth season): 48-33

vs. Red Bank Catholic 1-2

Head Coach: Frank Edgerly

Record at Red Bank Catholic (13th season): . . 78-50

Career Record (13th season): 78-50

vs. Pope John 0-2

INSIDE THE GAME

Lions looking to beat RBC, make state title game

Despite enduring one of the toughest regular seasons in school history, the Lions are win away from competing for their 21st state championship in school history and will look to accomplish this goal on Saturday night when they face top-seeded Red Bank Catholic in the Non-Public, Group 3 semifinals at Count Basie Field.

The fifth-seeded Lions are 2-8 on the year and have won two games in a row since starting the year 0-8 after earning a 33-12 win over St. John Vianney in the first round of states. The Lions are making their third straight appearance in the Non-Public, Group 3 semifinals.

The Lions will play top-seeded Red Bank Catholic — ranked No. 4 in the state according to Max Preps and No. 9 in the state according to NJ.com — for the right to play in the Non-Public, Group 3 championship game for the first time since 2013 and a right to play in their 28th state final game overall in school history.

In order to earn a win over Red Bank Catholic, the Lions know they have to play like they have during their wins against St. John Vianney and Seton Hall Prep, which they beat, 30-20, in come-from-behind fashion in the regular season finale. The Lions have averaged 31.5 points per game and allowed only 16 points per game.

In the state game against St. John Vianney, the Lions used a big second-quarter effort in which they scored 20 of their 33 points on the Lancers to pull out the win.

Clinging to a 7-6 lead, the Lions recovered a Lancers' fumble on the St. John Vianney 2-yard line, then extended their lead to 14-6 after senior running back Chris Rodriguez rushed for a touchdown from 2 yards out. On the ensuing St. John Vianney drive, the Lions received a big play from special teams, as senior defensive back Bryan Vargas blocked the Lancers' punt and senior defensive lineman Ireland Burke caught the ball in the air and rumbled his way to a 41-yard touchdown to make it a 21-6 lead for the Lions. Then with 1:24 left in the half, senior quarterback Niko Hroncich found junior wide receiver Menyelek Ward for a 10-yard touchdown to make it a 27-6 advantage. Justin Hertlein added two field goals in the fourth quarter to seal the win.

As for Red Bank Catholic, it is coming off an 8-0 regular season. The Caseys are looking to reach the state final for the first time since 2014.

STAT LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 59 car for 386 yds, 1 TD

Red Bank Cath.: Billy Guidetti 99 car for 719 yds, 9 TD

PASSING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 85-of-177, 1,033 yds, 7 TD, 3 INT

Red Bank Cath.: Steve Lubischer 73-of-102, 1,319 yds, 19 TD, 3 INT

RECEIVING

Pope John: Ryan Dengler 30 rec for 601 yds, 4 TD

Red Bank Cath.: Michael Wright 29 rec for 465 yds, 6 TD

DEFENSE

Pope John: Mike DeNucci 78 tkls, 4.5 sacks, 4 FF, 2 FR, 2 INT, 2 PD

Red Bank Cath.: N/A

2018 SCHEDULES/RESULTS

POPE JOHN

9/1 vs. DePaul*	L 48-7
9/7 at Paramus Catholic	L 22-14
9/15 at Archbishop Wood (Pa.)	L 22-20
9/22 at St. Joseph-Montvale	L 31-7
9/28 at Don Bosco Prep	L 37-0
10/6 vs. Delbarton*	L 27-0
10/13 at Bergen Catholic	L 14-6
10/20 vs. St. Peter's Prep	L 43-6
10/26 at Seton Hall Prep*	W 30-20
11/2 at St. John Vianney**	W 33-12
11/10 at Red Bank Catholic**	6 p.m.

RED BANK CATHOLIC

8/31 at St. John Vianney	W 41-14
9/7 vs. Ocean Township	W 40-7
9/14 vs. Toms River South	W 45-7
9/21 at Red Bank Regional	W 42-7
9/28 at Toms River East	W 35-0
10/5 vs. Long Branch	W 41-14
10/19 at Rumson-Fair Haven	W 14-13
10/26 vs. Middletown North	W 38-28
11/10 vs. Pope John**	6 p.m.

*NJSFC United White Division game
**Non-Public, Group 3 playoff game

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QUICK FACTS

SCHOOL

NAME: Pope John XXIII Regional High School
 LOCATION: 28 Andover Road., Sparta, N.J.
 FOUNDED: 1956
 NICKNAME: Lions
 COLORS: Blue & Gold
 CONFERENCE: North Jersey Super Football Conference
 PRESIDENT: Rev. Msgr. Kieran McHugh
 PRINCIPAL: Gene Emering
 DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS: Mia Gavan
 HEAD COACH/DEF. COORDINATOR: Brian Carlson (8th season)

FOOTBALL HISTORY

FIRST YEAR: 1962
 ALL-TIME RECORD: 428-143-5 (57th season)
 STATE TITLES: 20
 STATE FINAL APPEARANCES: 27
 STATE FINAL RECORD: 18-9
 STATE PLAYOFF APPEARANCES: 42
 STATE PLAYOFF RECORD: 49-23
 LEAGUE TITLES: 23

ASSISTANT COACHES

OFF. COORDINATOR/OFFENSIVE LINE COACH: ... Alex Cabasso
 WIDE RECEIVERS/SPECIAL TEAMS COACH: R.J. Crusco
 QUARTERBACKS COACH: Aaron Aiken
 DEFENSIVE LINE COACH: Phil Brown
 LINEBACKERS/SPECIAL TEAMS COACH: Jake Davis
 DEFENSIVE BACKS COACH: Mark Colyer
 DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL OPERATIONS Peter Ricciardi
 FRESHMAN HEAD COACH: Matt Millar
 FRESHMAN OFF. COORDINATOR: Ralph Crusco
 FRESHMAN DEF. COORDINATOR: Scott Mack

MEDICAL/SCHOOL STAFF

HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINER: Zac Fowler
 ASSISTANT ATHLETIC TRAINER: Taylor Perrault
 TEAM PHYSICIAN: Dr. Padavan
 STRENGTH & CONDITIONING COACH: Joe Lopez
 ACADEMIC COORDINATOR: Richard Murphy

MEDIA INFO

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 FOOTBALL TWITTER: @PopeJohnLionsFB
 FOOTBALL INSTAGRAM: @PopeJohnLionsFB

NEXT LEVEL LIONS



Since 2012, the Lions have had 53 players go on to play college football.

Among this 53-man group, 2014 graduates Noah Brown and Ryan Izzo have gone on to be drafted to play in the National Football League after enjoying standout careers at Pope John and at their respective NCAA Division I universities.

Brown is in his second year with the Dallas Cowboys after being picked in the seventh round by them in the 2017 NFL Draft. Following a three-year career at Ohio State University, Brown became Pope John's first graduate to play in the NFL, seeing time in 13 games with the five-time Super Bowl champion Cowboys and making four receptions for 33 yards while playing 279 total snaps.

Izzo is looking to become the second Pope John graduate to play in the NFL after being drafted in the seventh round by the New England Patriots in April. Izzo is coming off a three-year career at Florida State University, where he made 54 catches for 761 yards and six touchdowns while also being a terrific blocker.

While Brown and Izzo are competing at the highest level of football, the Lions currently have 34 alums playing in college. They are: Stephen Adams (Johns Hopkins University), Nick Bello (Assumption College), Austin Bailey (Sacred Heart University), Scott Black (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute), Jake Brown (Harvard University), Jhadir Charles (Monmouth University), John Cotis (Ithaca College), Zachary Cluett (Castleton University), Drew Daniels (Marist College), Samuel Darrell (Susquehanna University), Matt Dengler (Fordham University), Nick DeNucci (Boston College), Nick Esposito (Catholic University), Tim Fitzpatrick (Muhlenberg College), Ron Fox (Towson University), Ryan Greenhagen (Fordham University), Artis Hemmingway (University of Delaware), Sam Howson (Rutgers University), Ty Hranicka (Lafayette College), Terrance Jones (Idaho State University), Jonathan Marquez (East Stroudsburg University), Jason Miller (Towson University), Trevor Moore (Catholic University), Jack Morelli (Catholic University), Aidan Murray (University of Richmond), Berrell Neal (Assumption College), Andrew Nieves (Susquehanna University), Austin Pedersen (Kutztown University), Joe Quitadamo (Stonehill College), Sekayi Rudolph (Marist College), Jack Ryan (Wesleyan University), Gio Tricarico (Merrimack College), Dalyn Wade-Perry (Stanford University), and Mateo Zappata (Marist College).

NJSFC UNITED WHITE DIVISION STANDINGS

	Div.	%	Overall	%
1. x-DePaul	3-0	1.000	7-3	.700
2. Delbarton	2-1	.667	6-3	.667
3. Pope John	1-2	.333	2-8	.200
4. Seton Hall Prep	0-3	.000	5-5	.500

x-division champion

SCHEDULE

Friday, Nov. 9

Pope John at Red Bank Catholic, 7 p.m.

Mater Dei Prep at DePaul, 7 p.m.

Delbarton at Don Bosco Prep, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 3

Seton Hall Prep at Bergen Catholic, 1 p.m.

NJ.COM TOP 20 POLL

School	Record	Next Opp.
1. Bergen Catholic	8-1	vs. Seton Hall Prep
2. St. Joseph (Mont.)	7-2	vs. St. Augustine
3. St. Peter's Prep	6-3	vs. St. Joseph (Met.)
4. Piscataway	9-0	vs. Ridge
5. Somerville	10-0	vs. Holmdel
6. Don Bosco Prep	5-4	vs. Delbarton
7. Ramapo	10-0	vs. Sparta
8. DePaul	7-3	vs. Mater Dei Prep
9. Red Bank Catholic	8-0	vs. Pope John
10. Wayne Hills	8-2	vs. Morris Knolls
11. Haddonfield	9-0	vs. Pleasantville
12. Phillipsburg	8-1	vs. Cranford
13. Sayreville	8-1	vs. Manalapan
14. Union City	8-1	vs. Union
15. Williamstown	10-0	vs. Vineland
16. Paramus	10-0	vs. River Dell
17. Hillside	9-0	vs. Bernards
18. Camden	8-1	vs. West Deptford
19. Ridge	8-1	at No. 4 Piscataway
20. Burlington Twp.	9-0	vs. Timber Creek

NON-PUBLIC, GROUP 3 RANKINGS

School	Record	Power Points	Born Power Index	United Power Ranking
1. Red Bank Cath.	8-0	20.00	95.9	1.0
2. DePaul	6-3	14.22	94.3	2.4
3. Mater Dei	8-1	17.22	85.5	2.6
4. St. John Vianney	4-4	12.00	80.3	4.6
5. Donovan Cath.	5-2	11.71	64.9	5.6
6. Pope John	1-8	6.33	82.4	5.6
7. Pingry	3-5	7.38	33.2	7.8
8. Camden Cath.	0-8	4.50	49.6	8.2
9. Bishop Eustace	1-6	5.71	40.1	8.4
10. Bishop Ahr	4-5	7.22	31.5	8.8

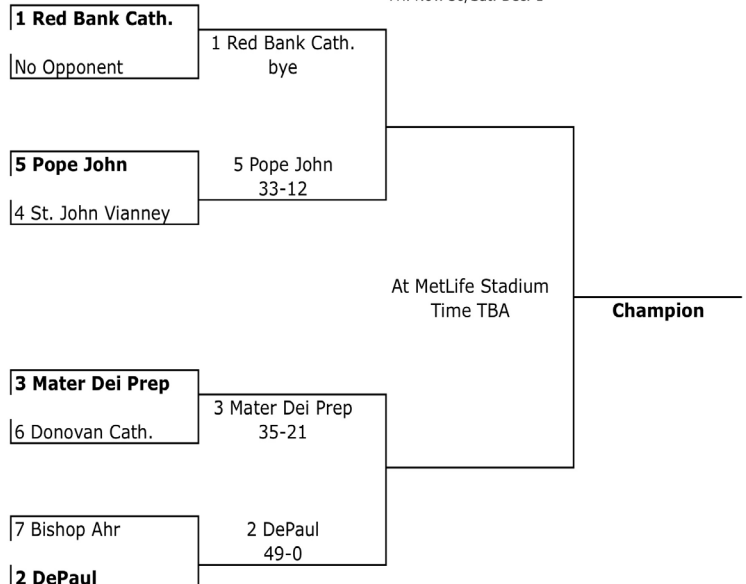
For Non-Public Schools, at the conclusion of Week 8, the top 12 teams per Group will be seeded. New to 2018, a Seeding Committee will seed both Group IV and Group III based on UPR, head to head competition, strength of schedule and overall record. The Seeding Committee will be comprised of one athletic director and one head football coach from both Non-Public Group IV and Group III, and will be chaired by an NJSIAA Executive Committee member. (According to NJSIAA)

MAX PREPS NJ TOP 25 RANKINGS

School	Record	Next Opp.
1. Bergen Catholic	8-1	vs. Seton Hall Prep
2. St. Joseph (Mont.)	7-2	vs. St. Augustine
3. St. Peter's Prep	6-3	vs. St. Joseph (Met.)
4. Red Bank Catholic	8-0	vs. Pope John
5. Don Bosco Prep	5-4	vs. Delbarton
6. Haddonfield	9-0	vs. Pleasantville
7. Somerville	10-0	vs. Holmdel
8. Williamstown	10-0	vs. Vineland
9. DePaul	7-3	vs. Mater Dei Prep
10. Ramapo	10-0	vs. Sparta
11. The Hun School	7-1	Bye
12. Camden	8-1	vs. No. 13 West Deptford
13. West Deptford	7-2	at No. 12 Camden
14. Burlington Twp.	9-0	vs. Timber Creek
15. Long Branch	8-1	vs. Brick Memorial
16. St. Joseph (Hamm.)	8-2	vs. Immaculata
17. Paramus	10-0	vs. River Dell
18. Piscataway	9-0	vs. Ridge
19. Rahway	7-1	vs. South Plainfield
20. St. Augustine	7-3	at No. 2 St. Joseph (Mont.)
21. Peddie	6-3	Bye
22. Mater Dei Prep	9-1	at No. 9 DePaul
23. Summit	8-1	vs. Montville
24. Rumson-Fair Haven	7-2	vs. Red Bank
25. Delbarton	6-3	at No. 5 Don Bosco Prep

NON-PUBLIC, GROUP 3 BRACKET

ROUND 1	SEMIFINALS	FINAL
FRI. NOV. 2/SAT. NOV. 3	FRI. NOV. 9/SAT. NOV. 10	Fri. Nov. 23/Sat. Nov. 24 OR Fri. Nov. 30/Sat. Dec. 1



HEAD COACH BRIAN CARLSON

Brian Carlson was named the sixth head coach in the history of the Pope John XXIII Regional High School/Our Lady of the Lake football program on April 1, 2011.

Since superseding the legendary Vic Paternostro, who led the Lions to 20 state championships in 43 seasons, Carlson has been putting his stamp on the program.

Entering his eighth season this year, Carlson has guided the Lions to a 46-27 record, three NJAC American Division titles and a Non-Public, Group 3 championship game appearance in 2013.

In 2014, Carlson helped the Lions elevate the program by having them face some of the best teams in the state in Paramus Catholic and DePaul. After two years of only having these two powerhouses on a schedule primarily filled with public schools from Sussex and Morris counties, the Lions started playing an exclusive non-public school schedule that featured some of the top private schools in the Northeast.

Now, the Lions play and scrimmage nationally-known teams such as Bergen Catholic, Paramus Catholic, St. Joseph-Montvale, Don Bosco Prep, DePaul, St. Peter's Prep, St. John's College High School (Washington, D.C.), Archbishop Wood (Pa.), and Malvern Prep (Pa.) on an annual basis.

Off the field, Carlson helped the Lions excel in the classroom and in the community.

Academically, 53 Lions have gone on to continue their academic and athletic careers at the NCAA level. This fall, 20 members from the Class of 2018 will be playing on the college gridiron, with 14 of them competing at the NCAA D-I or Division II level. The Class of 2018 also earned over \$2 million in athletic and Merit scholarships. In addition, the Lions finished the 2017-18 school year with a combined 3.05 GPA. Moreover, 38 percent of the team (out of 95 players) was recognized for Academic Achievement (either Distinguished Honors, 1st Honors or 2nd Honors).

In the community, the Lions have volunteered their time to local charities and organizations, such as SCARC and senior citizen homes.

Another big achievement of Carlson's at Pope John was forming the Jr Lions Athletics Program — a program that offers six sports to boys and girls in grades K-8 who attend Pope John High School, Pope John Middle School and Reverend George A. Brown Memorial School while modeling them after the way Pope John runs its varsity squads.

Carlson laid the groundwork for the program by using the vision he has for the football team as the "template." The football team is run by faith-based principles, is committed to the highest academic standards, and thrives on competition, otherwise known as "Faith, Family, Football."

The program has taken off since its inception in 2017, as it has over 400 students competing, including over 200 for football.

Before coming to Pope John, Carlson spent the 2010 season as the linebackers coach at Don Bosco Prep and was previously the head coach of Kean University's football program for eight seasons from 1992-99. During his tenure, he helped the school win a NJAC co-championship and the ECAC South Bowl championship.

A native of Saddle Brook, Carlson is a 1979 graduate of Paramus Catholic and a 1983 graduate of Montclair State University, where he played as a linebacker/defensive end for four years and was captain of the team as a senior. He earned his BS degree in Economics. He was also the CEO of Parisi Sports Inc., a position he held for over 10 years.

In addition to coaching, Carlson is a business teacher at Pope John and has served as the department's chair for the last three years. He lives in Sparta with his wife, Donna and their two children Brendan and Kate.



CARLSON FILE

HOMETOWN: Saddle Brook, N.J.

HIGH SCHOOL: Paramus Catholic, 1979

COLLEGE: Montclair State University, 1983,
B.A. Economics

RECORD (8th season): 48-33

COACHING EXPERIENCE

2011-pres.	Head Coach	Pope John
2010	Linebackers Coach	Don Bosco
1992-99	Head Coach	Kean University
1989-91	Def Coordinator	Kean University
1987-88	Assistant Coach	Kean University
1984-86	Assistant Coach	Paramus Catholic

Playing Career

Montclair State, LB/DE 1979-82, Captain in 1982

Paramus Catholic, LB 1975-78

CARLSON/POPE JOHN STATE RESULTS

Year	Opponent	Result
2011	at Red Bank Catholic	L 42-6
2012	vs. Camden Catholic	L 28-21
2013	vs. Bishop Ahr	W 53-0
	vs. Delbarton	W 14-13
	vs. St. Joseph-Montvale*	L 62-14
2014	at St. John Vianney	L 56-7
2015	vs. Red Bank Catholic	L 21-14
2016	vs. Red Bank Catholic	W 48-21
	at DePaul	L 23-20
2017	vs. Donovan Catholic	W 53-7
	vs. St. Joseph-Montvale	L 28-7
2018	at St. John Vianney	W 33-12

Total

5-7

POPE JOHN XXIII FOOTBALL ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Position(s)	Height	Weight	Class	Hometown
92	Ian Babitz	G/DE	5'11	187	10	West Milford, NJ
25	Sean Brennan	FS/QB	5'10	175	10	Highland Lakes, NJ
9	Ireland Burke	DL	6'3	300	12	Sparta, NJ
45	Pedro Calderon	LB	5'11	235	11	Franklin, NJ
83	Alex Campanella	WR	5'5	130	10	Kenilworth, NJ
21	Julian Canty	LB	6'0	210	12	Vernon, NJ
12	Anthony Caputo	Slot	5'7	185	12	Andover, NJ
29	Vincent Cimaglia	DB	5'9	145	11	Sussex, NJ
14	Robert Cox	FS/QB	5'9	150	10	Kenilworth, NJ
19	Zachary Cuttito	FS	6'1	165	12	Byram, NJ
8	Peter Delaportas	QB	6'2	185	9	Oak Ridge, NJ
11	Ryan Dengler	WR	5'10	180	12	Sparta, NJ
2	Mike DeNucci	SS	5'10	195	11	Denville, NJ
97	Nicholas DeSenzo	DT	5'10	270	12	West Milford, NJ
80	Daniel Dingus	WR	5'10	150	10	Hackettstown, NJ
67	Ethan Doumbe	OG	6'0	260	11	Sparta, NJ
89	Luke Dykstra	TE	5'11	165	12	Sparta, NJ
65	David Espinal	OL/DL	6'0	210	10	Sparta, NJ
20	Victor Febres	DB	5'10	145	11	Lake Hopatcong, NJ
73	Sebastian Flamenco	OL/DL	6'4	295	11	Hackettstown, NJ
64	Liam Gang	OC	5'11	225	10	Sparta, NJ
23	Billy Gould	FS/QB	5'9	165	10	Wantage, NJ
32	Trace Healy	LB	5'10	160	10	Wantage, NJ
71	David Heath	OT	6'4	260	11	Sparta, NJ
36	Justin Hertlein	PK	5'10	155	11	Glenwood, NJ
16	Anthony Holmes	DB	5'10	170	12	Mine Hill, NJ
7	Niko Hroncich	QB	6'2	190	12	North Haledon, NJ
22	Jacob Huhn	RB	5'8	190	12	Flanders, NJ
30	Evan Izzo	LS	5'10	145	10	Highland Lakes, NJ
95	Jahsin Jacobs	DT	5'11	285	9	Garfield, NJ
10	Tajimier Jones	WR	6'2	200	12	Paterson, NJ
84	Charlie Lauzon	DE	6'0	190	10	Newton, NJ
5	Miguel Lopez	DB	5'10	190	11	Paterson, NJ
85	Warren Lynch	WR	5'11	180	10	Sussex, NJ
13	Christian Maciak	FS	5'9	200	12	Sparta, NJ
70	Michael Maglio	OG	6'1	270	11	Hopatcong, NJ
3	Nafis Matthews	Slot	5'10	225	11	Lyndhurst, NJ
81	Matthew McConley	WR	6'1	140	10	Sparta, NJ
18	Connor Milks	DB	6'2	175	11	Wantage, NJ

POPE JOHN XXIII FOOTBALL ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Position(s)	Height	Weight	Class	Hometown
26	Collin Mills	PK	6'1	170	10	Lafayette, NJ
90	Louis Montana	DT/DE	6'4	260	12	Sandyston, NJ
33	Messiah Muckle	RB	5'10	170	10	Elmwood Park, NJ
68	James O'Rawe	LB	5'9	207	10	Landing, NJ
31	Michael Patten	LB/DE	6'1	210	10	Budd Lake, NJ
76	Giovanni Potente	OT	6'4	290	12	East Hanover, NJ
47	Jordan Quintero	LB	6'1	185	11	Woodland Park, NJ
27	Collin Roberts	LB	6'3	190	12	Newton, NJ
94	Issiaha Robinson	DE	6'2	225	11	Stanhope, NJ
15	Jarelle Robinson	WR/Slot	5'7	145	10	Englewood, NJ
4	Chris Rodriguez	SS/RB	5'9	210	12	Paterson, NJ
42	Dan Rosario	FB	5'9	215	11	Dover, NJ
87	Ryan Rumanowski	TE	6'3	200	12	Newton, NJ
1	Chris Sabo	LB	6'2	220	12	Great Meadows, NJ
37	Kevin Salmeri	DB	5'10	162	10	Sparta, NJ
66	Frankie Schomp	DE	6'2	225	11	Newton, NJ
77	Jake Sledge	OC	5'11	260	11	Sparta, NJ
48	Luke Spivak	LB	5'10	175	10	Roxbury, NJ
55	Mike Stelatella	LB	5'9	220	11	Byram, NJ
99	Jasmir Taylor	DT	5'10	245	11	Paterson, NJ
17	Josh Taylor	LB	5'10	190	11	Paterson, NJ
88	Zhayon Thompson	WR	6'0	165	11	Sparta, NJ
43	Mark Vanorski	RB	5'9	170	10	Glenwood, NJ
41	Bryan Vargas	S	5'10	190	12	Garfield, NJ
6	Menyelek Ward	RB	5'7	160	11	Sparta, NJ
34	Nasir West	RB	5'8	170	12	Morristown, NJ
28	Tyler Zummo	FS/Slot	5'9	145	10	Sparta, NJ
39	Cole Zydel	LB	5'7	200	11	Wantage, NJ

PRONUNCIATIONS

Ireland Burke EYE-ER-LAND Burke
 Vincent Cimaglia Vincent SE-MAG-LEE-AH
 Zachary Cuttito Zachary CUT-TEE-TOE
 Peter Delaportas Peter DELL-A-PORT-US
 Mike DeNucci Mike DE-NEW-CHI
 Ethan Doumbe Ethan DOOM-BAY
 Sebastian Flamenco Sebastian FLA-MEN-CO
 Justin Hertlein Justin HURT-LINE
 Niko Hroncich KNEE-CO HER-ON-SITCH
 Tajimier Jones TAJ-EH-MERE Jones
 Christian Maciak Christian MAY-SEE-ACK

Nafis Matthews NAH-FEES Matthews
 Messiah Muckle Messiah MUCK-LE
 Giovanni Potente Giovanni PO-TEN-TE
 Jarelle Robinson JAH-RELL Robinson
 Ryan Rumanowski Ryan RUM-AN-OW-SKI
 Chris Sabo Chris SAY-BO
 Frankie Schomp Frankie SKOMP
 Mike Stelatella Mike STELL-AH-TELL-AH
 Jasmir Taylor JAZZ-MERE Taylor
 Menyelek Ward MEN-EL-EKE Ward
 Nasir West NAH-SEAR West

POPE JOHN XXIII FOOTBALL NUMERICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Position(s)	Height	Weight	Class	Hometown
1	Chris Sabo	LB	6'2	220	12	Great Meadows, NJ
2	Mike DeNucci	SS	5'10	195	11	Denville, NJ
3	Nafis Matthews	Slot	5'10	225	11	Lyndhurst, NJ
4	Chris Rodriguez	SS/RB	5'9	210	12	Paterson, NJ
5	Miguel Lopez	DB	5'10	190	11	Paterson, NJ
6	Menyelek Ward	RB	5'7	160	11	Sparta, NJ
7	Niko Hroncich	QB	6'2	190	12	North Haledon, NJ
8	Peter Delaportas	QB	6'2	185	9	Oak Ridge, NJ
9	Ireland Burke	DL	6'3	290	12	Sparta, NJ
10	Tajimier Jones	WR	6'2	200	12	Paterson, NJ
11	Ryan Dengler	WR	5'10	180	12	Sparta, NJ
12	Anthony Caputo	Slot	5'7	185	12	Andover, NJ
13	Christian Maciak	FS	5'9	200	12	Sparta, NJ
14	Robert Cox	FS/QB	5'9	150	10	Kenilworth, NJ
15	Jarelle Robinson	WR/Slot	5'7	145	10	Englewood, NJ
16	Anthony Holmes	DB	5'10	170	12	Mine Hill, NJ
17	Josh Taylor	LB	5'10	190	11	Paterson, NJ
18	Connor Milks	DB	6'2	175	11	Wantage, NJ
19	Zachary Cuttito	FS	6'1	165	12	Byram, NJ
20	Victor Febres	DB	5'10	145	11	Lake Hopatcong, NJ
21	Julian Cauty	LB	6'0	210	12	Vernon, NJ
22	Jacob Huhn	RB	5'8	190	12	Flanders, NJ
23	Billy Gould	FS/QB	5'9	165	10	Wantage, NJ
25	Sean Brennan	FS/QB	5'10	175	10	Highland Lakes, NJ
26	Collin Mills	PK	6'1	170	10	Lafayette, NJ
27	Collin Roberts	LB	6'3	190	12	Newton, NJ
28	Tyler Zummo	FS/Slot	5'9	145	10	Sparta, NJ
29	Vincent Cimaglia	DB	5'9	145	11	Sussex, NJ
30	Evan Izzo	LS	5'10	145	10	Highland Lakes, NJ
31	Michael Patten	LB/DE	6'1	210	10	Budd Lake, NJ
32	Trace Healy	LB	5'10	160	10	Wantage, NJ
33	Messiah Muckle	RB	5'10	170	10	Elmwood Park, NJ
34	Nasir West	RB	5'8	170	12	Morristown, NJ
36	Justin Hertlein	PK	5'10	155	11	Glenwood, NJ
37	Kevin Salmeri	DB	5'10	162	10	Sparta, NJ
39	Cole Zydel	LB	5'7	200	11	Wantage, NJ
41	Bryan Vargas	S	5'10	190	12	Garfield, NJ
42	Dan Rosario	FB	5'9	215	11	Dover, NJ
43	Mark Vanorski	RB	5'9	170	10	Glenwood, NJ

POPE JOHN XXIII FOOTBALL NUMERICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Position(s)	Height	Weight	Class	Hometown
45	Pedro Calderon	LB	5'11	235	11	Franklin, NJ
47	Jordan Quintero	LB	6'1	185	11	Woodland Park, NJ
48	Luke Spivak	LB	5'10	175	10	Roxbury, NJ
55	Mike Stelatella	LB	5'9	220	11	Byram, NJ
64	Liam Gang	OC	5'11	225	10	Sparta, NJ
65	David Espinal	OL/DL	6'0	210	10	Sparta, NJ
66	Frankie Schomp	DE	6'2	225	11	Newton, NJ
67	Ethan Doumbe	OG	6'0	260	11	Sparta, NJ
68	James O'Rawe	LB	5'9	207	10	Landing, NJ
70	Michael Maglio	OG	6'1	270	11	Hopatcong, NJ
71	David Heath	OT	6'4	260	11	Sparta, NJ
73	Sebastian Flamenco	OL/DL	6'4	295	11	Hackettstown, NJ
76	Giovanni Potente	OT	6'4	290	12	East Hanover, NJ
77	Jake Sledge	C	5'11	260	11	Sparta, NJ
80	Daniel Dingus	WR	5'10	150	10	Hackettstown, NJ
81	Matthew McConley	WR	6'1	140	10	Sparta, NJ
83	Alex Campanella	WR	5'5	130	10	Kenilworth, NJ
84	Charlie Lauzon	DE	6'0	190	10	Newton, NJ
85	Warren Lynch	WR	5'11	180	10	Sussex, NJ
87	Ryan Rumanowski	TE	6'3	200	12	Newton, NJ
88	Zhayon Thompson	WR	6'0	165	11	Sparta, NJ
89	Luke Dykstra	TE	5'11	165	12	Sparta, NJ
90	Louis Montana	DT/DE	6'4	260	12	Sandyston, NJ
92	Ian Babitz	G/DE	5'11	187	10	West Milford, NJ
94	Issiaha Robinson	DE	6'2	225	11	Stanhope, NJ
95	Jahsin Jacobs	DT	5'11	285	9	Garfield, NJ
97	Nicholas DeSenzo	DT	5'10	270	12	West Milford, NJ
99	Jasmir Taylor	DT	5'10	245	11	Paterson, NJ

PRONUNCIATIONS

Ireland Burke EYE-ER-LAND Burke
 Vincent Cimaglia Vincent SE-MAG-LEE-AH
 Zachary Cuttito Zachary CUT-TEE-TOE
 Peter Delaportas Peter DELL-A-PORT-US
 Mike DeNucci Mike DE-NEW-CHI
 Ethan Doumbe Ethan DOOM-BAY
 Sebastian Flamenco Sebastian FLA-MEN-CO
 Justin Hertlein Justin HURT-LINE
 Niko Hroncich KNEE-CO HER-ON-SITCH
 Tajmier Jones TAJ-EH-MERE Jones
 Christian Maciak Christian MAY-SEE-ACK

Nafis Matthews NAH-FEES Matthews
 Messiah Muckle Messiah MUCK-LE
 Giovanni Potente Giovanni PO-TEN-TE
 Jarelle Robinson JAH-RELL Robinson
 Ryan Rumanowski Ryan RUM-AN-OW-SKI
 Chris Sabo Chris SAY-BO
 Frankie Schomp Frankie SKOMP
 Mike Stelatella Mike STELL-AH-TELL-AH
 Jasmir Taylor JAZZ-MERE Taylor
 Menyelek Ward MEN-EL-EKE Ward
 Nasir West NAH-SEAR West

POPE JOHN XXIII REGIONAL H.S./OUR LADY OF THE LAKE FOOTBALL HISTORY

Year	Record	League Titles	State Games	State Sectional titles	State Championship Appearances	Coach
1962-63	0-5					Ken Slattery
1963-64	0-8					Jim Spencer
1964-65	0-9					Jim Spencer
1965-66	0-8					Jim Spencer
1966-67	1-8					Cliff Ruth
1967-68	4-3					Jim Kettle
1968-69	3-5-1					Vic Paternostro
1969-70	6-3					Vic Paternostro
1970-71	4-4					Vic Paternostro
1971-72	7-1			Parochial C North	**NJSIAA declared title	Vic Paternostro
1972-73	8-1			Parochial C North	**NJSIAA declared title	Vic Paternostro
1973-74	9-0					Vic Paternostro
1974-75	8-0-1					Vic Paternostro
1975-76	10-1	SCIL	*St. Mary (Ruth.) (W 14-7)	Parochial B North	Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1976-77	9-1	SCIL	*St. Mary (Ruth.) (L 49-14)		Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1977-78	8-2-1		Our Lady of Valley (W 12-0) *Immac. Conc. (L 17-14 OT)		Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1978-79	6-3					Vic Paternostro
1979-80	10-0-1	SCIL	St. Mary (Ruth.) (W 18-10) *Immac. Conc. (W 28-6)	Parochial B North	Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro

POPE JOHN XXIII REGIONAL H.S./OUR LADY OF THE LAKE FOOTBALL HISTORY

Year	Record	League Titles	State Games	State Sectional titles	State Championship Appearances	Coach
1980-81	8-2		*St. Mary (Ruth.) (L 6-0 2OT)		Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1981-82	9-1		Bayley Ellard (W 29-18) *St. Cecilia (W 28-0)	Parochial B North	Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1982-83	10-1		*Immac. Conc. (W 27-0)	Parochial B North	Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1983-84	11-0	SCIL	Paul VI (W 27-6) *St. Joseph (Pal.) (W 40-14)	Parochial B North	Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1984-85	7-3-1		DePaul (W 21-7) *Immaculata (L 17-0)		Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1985-86	9-2	SCIL	Bayley Ellard (W 34-13) *Immaculata (L 29-21)		Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1986-87	10-1		Bayley Ellard (W 13-7) *Phillipsburg C. (W 35-0)	Parochial B North	Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1987-88	11-0	SCIL	Montclair-Kim (W 30-9) *Morris Cath. (W 22-7)	Parochial B North	Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1988-89	10-1		Paul VI (Clift.) (W 28-0) *DePaul (W 12-7)	Parochial B North	Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1989-90	10-1		Marist (W 27-0) *Bayley Ellard (W 35-17)	Parochial B North	Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1990-91	10-1	SCIL	Morris Cath. (W 35-22) *DePaul (W 21-14)	Parochial B North	Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro

POPE JOHN XXIII REGIONAL H.S./OUR LADY OF THE LAKE FOOTBALL HISTORY

Year	Record	League Titles	State Games	State Sectional titles	State Championship Appearances	Coach
1991-92	11-1	SCIL	Bayley Ellard (W 47-8) *Marist (W 35-0)	Parochial B North	Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1992-93	10-1	SCIL	St. Mary (Ruth.) (W 41-0) *DePaul (L 28-21)		Parochial B North	Vic Paternostro
1993-94	10-1		Pingry (W 30-7) *Marist (W 14-0)	Parochial, Group 2	Parochial, Group 2	Vic Paternostro
1994-95	4-5					Vic Paternostro
1995-96	10-0	SCIL	Pingry (W 33-11) *Marist (W 20-15)	Parochial, Group 2	Parochial, Group 2	Vic Paternostro
1996-97	11-0	SCIL	Red Bank C. (W 54-12) *DePaul (W 14-7)	Parochial, Group 2	Parochial, Group 2	Vic Paternostro
1997-98	11-0	SCIL	Paterson C. (W 27-0) *DePaul (W 44-13)	Parochial, Group 2	Parochial, Group 2	Vic Paternostro
1998-99	9-2		Red Bank C. (W 13-7) *Pingry (W 46-7)	Parochial, Group 2	Parochial, Group 2	Vic Paternostro
1999-2000	7-3		Immaculata (L 37-7)			Vic Paternostro
2000-01	9-3	SCIL	Red Bank C. (W 27-7) Immaculata (W 28-25) *St. Joseph (Mont.) (L 54-29)		Parochial, Group 3	Vic Paternostro
2001-02	9-1	SCIL	*Paterson C. (W 13-12)	Parochial, Group 2	Parochial, Group 2	Vic Paternostro
2002-03	9-2		Montclair-Kim (W 42-0) *Queen of Peace (W 41-12)	Parochial, Group 2	Parochial, Group 2	Vic Paternostro
2003-04	9-2		St. Joseph (Mont.) (L 33-14)			Vic Paternostro
2004-05	11-1	SCIL	Paul VI (W 35-14) Holy Cross (W 34-16) *St. Joseph (Mont.) (L 42-8)		Parochial, Group 3	Vic Paternostro

POPE JOHN XXIII REGIONAL H.S./OUR LADY OF THE LAKE FOOTBALL HISTORY

Year	Record	League Titles	State Games	State Sectional titles	State Championship Appearances	Coach
2005-06	9-2	SCIL	Holy Spirit (W 21-12) St. Joseph (Mont.) (L 56-14)			Vic Paternostro
2006-07	9-1	SCIL	Delbarton (L 49-28)			Vic Paternostro
2007-08	7-3		Hudson C. (L 16-6)			Vic Paternostro
2008-09	8-2	SCIL	Gloucester C. (L 37-14)			Vic Paternostro
2009-10	9-2	NJAC National	Delbarton (W 28-21) Immaculata (L 25-20)			Vic Paternostro
2010-11	10-1	NJAC American	Delbarton (W 21-13) Holy Spirit (L 34-27)			Vic Paternostro
2011-12	5-5		Red Bank C. (L 42-6)			Brian Carlson
2012-13	7-3	NJAC American	Camden C. (L 28-21)			Brian Carlson
2013-14	10-2	NJAC American	Bishop Ahr (W 53-0) Delbarton (W 14-13) *St. Joseph (Mont.) (L 62-14)		Non-Public, Group 3	Brian Carlson
2014-15	5-5		St. John Vianney (L 56-7)			Brian Carlson
2015-16	7-3	NJAC American	Red Bank C. (L 21-14)			Brian Carlson
2016-17	6-5		Red Bank C. (W 48-21) DePaul (L 23-20)			Brian Carlson
2017-18	6-4		Donovan C. (W 53-7) St. Joseph (Mont.) (L 28-7)			Brian Carlson
2018-19	2-8					Brian Carlson

THE SERIES VS. RED BANK CATHOLIC

The Lions and Red Bank Catholic have played against each other six times dating back to 1996, with the Lions leading the series 4-2. The two non-public schools have met all six times in the state playoffs.

The Lions first took on the Caseys in the first round of the Parochial, Group 2 tournament in 1996. The Lions, who were the defending state champs, rolled their way to a 54-12 victory to advance to the sectional final for the second year in a row and 20th time overall in program history.

Two years later after winning state crowns in 1996 and 1997, the Lions and Caseys met again in the Parochial, Group 2 first round. This time, the Lions pulled out a 13-7 win to punch their ticket to the state final for the fourth consecutive year.

Then in 2000, the Lions faced the Caseys, this time in the Parochial, Group 3 tournament after both schools moved up in group size. The Lions notched a 27-7 win over the Caseys for their third win in a row over them and advanced to the semifinals against Immaculata.

The two schools did not meet again until 2011, when they played in the Non-Public, Group 3 playoffs. That year, the Caseys finally got a win in the series by posting a 42-6 victory.

Then from 2015-16, the Lions and Caseys faced each other in states in back-to-back seasons. In 2015, the Caseys pulled out a 21-14 win, but the Lions came back the following season and stormed their way to a 48-21 victory.



LAST MEETING

Junior running back Berrell Neal had 13 carries for 250 yards and two touchdowns, junior wide receiver Christian Izien caught two TDs and junior Jhadir Charles returned a kickoff 89 yards for a score to lead the third-seeded Lions to the Non-Public, Group 3 semifinals for the first time since 2013 by way of a 48-21 win over Red Bank Catholic at Pope John XXIII Regional High School.

The win put the Lions in the semis for the first time since blasting Bishop Ahr, 53-0, three years prior en route to making the Non-Public, Group 3 final. It also allowed the Lions to avenge their 21-14 loss to the sixth-seeded Caseys from 2015 in this same round on the same Pope John turf field.

Neal's two rushing TDs came from 74 and 87 yards out, respectively. Izien hauled in TD receptions from 21 and 36 yards out, respectively, on his way to 77 yards receiving for the day.

Junior linebacker Nick DeNucci led the Lions' defense, which held the Caseys to 193 total yards, by making 13 tackles and one sack. Senior defensive tackle Dalyn Wade-Perry and junior linebacker Ryan Greenhagen each had 10 tackles in the win.

POPE JOHN 48, RED BANK CATHOLIC 21

	1	2	3	4	F
RBC	7	7	7	0	21
Pope John	21	7	13	7	48

TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	RED BANK CATHOLIC
POINTS	48	21
PLAYS	50	47
DRIVES	12	12
RUSH PLAYS	39	21
RUSH YDS	391	13
PASS PLAYS	11	26
PASS YDS	125	180
TOTAL YDS	516	193
PENALTIES	8	4
PENALTY YDS	61	40
TURNOVERS	3	2
INTERCEPTIONS	1	1
FUMBLES	2	0
PUNTS	5	7

GAME LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Berrell Neal 13 car for 250 yds, 2 TD

Red Bank Catholic: Zack Bair 8 car for 15 yds, 1 TD

PASSING

Pope John: Ty Hranicka 7-of-11, 125 yd, 2 TD, 1 INT

Red Bank Catholic: Steve Lubischer 16-of-26 180 yds, 2 TD, 1 INT

RECEIVING

Pope John: Christian Izien 3 rec for 77 yds, 2 TD

Red Bank Catholic: Zack Bair 4 rec for 71 yds

DEFENSE

Pope John: Nick DeNucci 13 tkls, 1 sack

Red Bank Catholic: Zack Bair 12 tkls, 2 FF

GAME 1 RECAP: DePAUL DOWNS LIONS IN SEASON OPENER

SPARTA — In a much anticipated season opener, the Pope John Lions had a tough time against DePaul, as the defending Non-Public, Group 3 champion Spartans handed the Lions a 48-7 defeat at Pope John XXIII Regional High School.

With the defeat, the Lions have now lost the last six meetings against DePaul and have dropped to 5-7 in the all-time series. The Lions' last win against the Spartans was in 1997, when they rolled to a 44-13 victory in the Parochial, Group 2 championship game to capture their third state title in a row and 17th overall in school history.

The loss also put the Lions at 0-1 in the North Jersey Super Football Conference United White Division, while DePaul improved to 1-0 in the four-team division that also includes Delbarton and Seton Hall Prep.

The Lions could not get any rhythm going on offense, as they only had 134 total yards against the Spartans and were forced to punt eight times. The lone bright spot offensively in the game took place in the third quarter, when senior wide receiver Ryan Dengler hauled in a 74-yard touchdown reception from freshman quarterback Peter Delaportas, who filled in for starter Niko Hroncich after the senior signal caller left the game with an injury.

On defense, the Lions had a hard time stopping the Spartans, as they allowed 400 total yards, 294 of which were at the hands of Penn State-bound quarterback Ta'Quon Roberson. Roberson also had four touchdowns on the day.

Despite the amount of points and yardage allowed, the Lions had some solid performances from junior safety Mike DeNucci (team-high 10 tackles), senior linebacker Chris Sabo (seven tackles) and senior defensive lineman Ireland Burke (three tackles for loss).



DePAUL 48, POPE JOHN 7

	1	2	3	4	F
DePaul	14	21	7	6	48
Pope John	0	0	7	0	7

TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	DePAUL
POINTS	7	48
PLAYS	46	54
DRIVES	11	10
RUSH PLAYS	23	21
RUSH YDS	79	124
PASS PLAYS	17	29
PASS YDS	96	276
TOTAL YDS	134	400
PENALTIES	5	7
PENALTY YDS	38	65
TURNOVERS	1	1
INTERCEPTIONS	1	1
FUMBLES	0	2
PUNTS	8	1

GAME LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Jacob Huhn 8 car for 30 yds

DePaul: Ta'Quon Roberson 5 car for 57 yds, 1 TD

PASSING

Pope John: Peter Delaportas 1-of-4, 74 yds, 1 TD, 1 INT

DePaul: Ta'Quon Roberson 14-of-25, 237 yds, 3 TD, 1 INT

RECEIVING

Pope John: Ryan Dengler 3 rec for 89 yds, 1 TD

DePaul: Teddy Afful 5 rec for 77 yds, 2 TD

DEFENSE

Pope John: Mike DeNucci 10 tkls

DePaul: Daniel Forster 9 tkls, 3 sacks

GAME 2 RECAP: LIONS' LATE RALLY FALLS SHORT IN LOSS TO PARAMUS CATHOLIC

PARAMUS — After playing close to 44 minutes of inconsistent football, the Lions scored two touchdowns in the final four minutes of the fourth quarter, but their late rally fell short as they lost to Paramus Catholic, 22-14, at Paramus Catholic.

The Lions (0-2) trailed, 15-0, midway through the fourth quarter after they allowed a field goal and a safety in the first quarter, followed by a touchdown and a field goal in the second quarter. In the process, they turned the ball over five times — twice on muffed punt attempts, once on an interception, once on a fumble and once on downs.

But, the Lions managed to make it interesting in the final four minutes by receiving a pair of rushing TDs from junior running back Nafis Matthews that were set up by two big pass plays caught by senior wide receiver Ryan Dengler for 33 and 67 yards, respectively. Matthews scores were from 1 and 3 yards out, respectively.

However, a 53-yard touchdown run by the Paladins that occurred in between the two Pope John scores and a 10-yard run on second down on the Paladins' drive following the Lions' second TD sealed the win for PC.

Matthews and Dengler led the offense in the loss. Matthews finished with 18 carries for 56 yards, while Dengler hauled in four receptions for 143 yards. Freshman quarterback Peter Delaportas had a solid performance in his first career start, completing 14-of-27 passes for 227 yards.

Senior defensive lineman Ireland Burke paced the Lions' defense, as he racked up 10 tackles. Fellow senior defensive lineman Louis Montana registered five tackles and two sacks, while senior linebacker Chris Sabo added nine tackles in the defeat.



PARAMUS CATHOLIC 22, POPE JOHN 14

	1	2	3	4	F
Pope John	0	0	0	14	14
PC	5	10	0	7	22

TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	PARAMUS CATH.
POINTS	14	22
PLAYS	65	50
DRIVES	11	11
RUSH PLAYS	33	30
RUSH YDS	105	213
PASS PLAYS	27	25
PASS YDS	227	125
TOTAL YDS	331	324
PENALTIES	9	12
PENALTY YDS	50	87
TURNOVERS	5	2
INTERCEPTIONS	1	1
FUMBLES	3	1
PUNTS	1	2

GAME LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Nafis Matthews 18 car for 56 yds, 2 TD, 1 FUM

Paramus Catholic: Tyshawn Brinson 18 car for 144 yds, 1 TD

PASSING

Pope John: Peter Delaportas 14-of-27, 227 yds, 1 INT

Paramus Catholic: Dorian Nowell 10-of-20, 125 yds, 2 TD, 1 INT

RECEIVING

Pope John: Ryan Dengler 4 rec for 143 yds

Paramus Catholic: Troy Leary 4 rec for 31 yds, 1 TD

DEFENSE

Pope John: Ireland Burke 10 tkls

Paramus Catholic: Wyatt Hammond 16 tkls

GAME 3 RECAP: ARCHBISHOP WOOD'S LATE TD DROPS LIONS TO 0-3



ARCHBISHOP WOOD (Pa.) 22, POPE JOHN 20

	1	2	3	4	F
Pope John	13	0	7	0	20
AW	14	2	0	6	22

TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	ARCH. WOOD
POINTS	20	22
PLAYS	53	61
DRIVES	14	14
RUSH PLAYS	26	43
RUSH YDS	161	189
PASS PLAYS	27	18
PASS YDS	192	133
TOTAL YDS	353	330
PENALTIES	2	7
PENALTY YDS	15	55
TURNOVERS	4	2
INTERCEPTIONS	0	1
FUMBLES	3	1
PUNTS	5	7

WARMINSTER, Pa. — Desperately looking for their first win of the year, the Lions came up short in achieving that goal after losing to Archbishop Wood, 22-20, at William Tennent High School.

With the defeat, the Lions have dropped to 0-3 on the season for only the fifth time in program history and the first time since 1965, when the team — known as Our Lady of the Lake — was in the middle of its state-record losing streak of 32 games that ended in the third week of the 1966 season.

The Lions had high hopes to avoid a three-game losing streak after jumping out to a 6-0 lead in the first quarter after senior wide receiver Ryan Dengler hauled in a 74-yard touchdown pass from senior quarterback Niko Hroncich. But, the Lions allowed two straight touchdowns to Archbishop Wood — a two-time defending PIAA 5A state champion — to slip into a 14-6 hole. The Lions cut the deficit to one after junior running back Nafis Matthews bolted for a 64-yard TD run.

Unfortunately, the Lions went into halftime trailing, 16-13, after being called for a safety while intentional grounding in the end zone at the start of their drive in the second quarter.

In the third quarter, Hroncich gave the Lions a 20-16 lead after finding junior wideout Menyelek Ward for a 13-yard TD. However, the Lions let the lead slip away after Archbishop's Tom Santiago ran for the second of his two touchdowns on the day from 22 yards out and they failed to get out of their own territory on their final three drives of the game.

Hroncich finished 10-of-27 passing with 192 yards and two TDs, Matthews had 102 yards rushing on nine carries, and Dengler had 98 yards receiving on five receptions to lead the Lions' offense in the defeat.

Junior linebacker/safety Mike DeNucci paced the defense with 13 tackles and an interception. Senior linebacker Chris Sabo also had 10 tackles and a forced fumble for Pope John.

GAME LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Nafis Matthews 9 car for 102 yds, 1 TD, 1 FUM

Archbishop Wood: Tom Santiago 21 car for 165 yds, 2 TD

PASSING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 10-of-27, 192 yds, 2 TD

Archbishop Wood: Jake Ross 10-of-18, 133 yds, 1 TD

RECEIVING

Pope John: Ryan Dengler 5 rec for 98 yds, 1 TD

Archbishop Wood: Jalen Cobb 4 rec for 92 yds

DEFENSE

Pope John: Mike DeNucci 13 tkls, 1 INT

Archbishop Wood: N/A

GAME 4 RECAP: LIONS DROP TO 0-4 WITH LOSS TO RIVAL ST. JOE'S

MONTVALE — The Lions could not crack the win column and avoid their first 0-4 start in 53 years on Saturday, as they lost to rival St. Joseph-Montvale, 31-7, at St. Joseph Regional High School.

The Lions are winless in their first four games for the first time since 1965, when the team — known as Our Lady of the Lake — was in the middle of its state-record losing streak of 32 games that ended in the third week of the 1966 season. The loss to St. Joe's also dropped them to 0-8 against the Green Knights in their all-time series dating back to 2000.

The Lions thought they could pull out a comeback win against the Green Knights in a rematch of last year's Non-Public, Group 3 semifinals.

The Lions trailed, 17-0, in the third quarter until they received a 3-yard touchdown run from senior running back Jacob Huhn. But, the Lions gave up two touchdown runs to Andre Epps — one in the third quarter on the Green Knights' ensuing drive after Huhn's touchdown and one in the fourth quarter — to allow St. Joseph to come away with the victory.

Huhn, senior quarterback Niko Hroncich and senior wide receiver Taj Jones led the offense in the loss. Hroncich completed 18-of-31 passes for 188 yards, while Jones hauled in six catches for 102 yards and Huhn finished with 28 rushing yards on nine carries.

Senior defensive back Anthony Holmes paced the Lions' defense, as he made eight tackles and intercepted a pass, which he returned for 19 yards.

Senior free safety Zachary Cuttito also came away with eight tackles, junior linebacker Mike DeNucci had seven tackles and a blocked punt, and junior defensive tackle Jasmir Taylor recorded two sacks and six tackles in the defeat.



ST. JOSEPH-MONTVALE 31, POPE JOHN 7

	1	2	3	4	F
Pope John	0	0	7	0	7
SJ-Mont	7	10	7	7	31

TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	ST. JOSEPH
POINTS	7	31
PLAYS	51	49
DRIVES	9	10
RUSH PLAYS	18	35
RUSH YDS	66	369
PASS PLAYS	32	11
PASS YDS	223	91
TOTAL YDS	289	448
PENALTIES	4	14
PENALTY YDS	20	98
TURNOVERS	3	1
INTERCEPTIONS	0	1
FUMBLES	2	0
PUNTS	5	3

GAME LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Jacob Huhn 9 car for 28 yds, 1 TD

St. Joseph-Montvale: Andre Epps 15 car for 237 yds, 3 TD

PASSING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 18-of-31, 188 yds

St. Joseph-Montvale: Michael Alaimo 6-of-11, 91 yds, 1 TD, 1 INT

RECEIVING

Pope John: Taj Jones 6 rec for 102 yds

St. Joseph-Montvale: Brett Buckman 3 rec for 54 yds

DEFENSE

Pope John: Anthony Holmes 8 tkls, 1 INT

St. Joseph-Montvale: Dante Zicarelli, Howard Cross, Kevin Jaffe 8 tkls

GAME 5 RECAP: LIONS SLIP TO 0-5 AFTER ROAD LOSS TO DON BOSCO



DON BOSCO PREP 37, POPE JOHN 0

	1	2	3	4	F
Pope John	0	0	0	0	0
Don Bosco	14	14	7	2	37

TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	DON BOSCO PREP
POINTS	0	37
PLAYS	41	49
DRIVES	10	10
RUSH PLAYS	18	35
RUSH YDS	46	125
PASS PLAYS	23	14
PASS YDS	61	105
TOTAL YDS	107	230
PENALTIES	4	4
PENALTY YDS	26	35
TURNOVERS	1	0
INTERCEPTIONS	0	0
FUMBLES	1	0
PUNTS	7	4

RAMSEY — The Lions had a tough time on the road Friday night, as they were shut out by Don Bosco, 37-0, at Granatell Stadium.

With the loss, the Lions are 0-5 on the season and are in the midst of their longest losing streak since 1965, when the team — known as Our Lady of the Lake — went 0-8 and was in the middle of its state-record losing streak of 32 games that ended in the third week of the 1966 season.

The Lions tried to upend Don Bosco — a team that was ranked seventh in the state in Max Prep's Top 25 rankings and 10th in NJ.com's Top 20 poll — for their first win of the season and in the first regular season meeting between the two historic programs. Unfortunately, the Lions could not put together a complete effort in each facet of the game.

The Lions gave up 28 points to the Ironmen in the first half after allowing two touchdowns in the first quarter and two in the second quarter. On three of those four RD drives, the Lions allowed the Ironmen to start their drive in Pope John territory.

On offense, the Lions only managed 107 total yards — 61 passing yards and 46 rushing yards. On the 10 drives they had in the game, the Lions punted on seven of them.

The combo of senior quarterback Niko Hroncich and senior wide receiver Ryan Dengler paced the offense. Hroncich completed 8-of-23 passes for 61 yards, while Dengler caught three passes for 41 yards.

Senior defensive lineman Ireland Burke stood out on the Lions' defense, as he made eight tackles and one sack in the defeat. Linebackers Mike DeNucci and Chris Sabo had seven tackles apiece for Pope John in the defeat.

For Don Bosco, the win put the team at 3-2 on the year. The victory was also the 400th in program history, which started back in 1948.

GAME LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 3 car for 21 yds, 1 FUM

Don Bosco Prep: Kyle Monangai 14 car for 93 yds, 1 TD

PASSING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 8-of-23, 61 yds

Don Bosco Prep: Jake Tarentino 4-of-4, 71 yds

RECEIVING

Pope John: Ryan Dengler 3 rec for 41 yds

Don Bosco Prep: Brandon Jimenez 2 rec for 36 yds

DEFENSE

Pope John: Ireland Burke 8 tkls, 1 sack

Don Bosco Prep: N/A

GAME 6 RECAP: TURNOVERS SPOIL LIONS' SHOT AT 1ST WIN VS. DELBARTON

SPARTA — The mistakes that have plagued the Lions all season long continued to happen on Saturday during their Homecoming against Delbarton, as they lost to the rival Green Wave, 27-0, at Pope John XXIII High School and still remained without a win on the season.

With the loss, the Lions fell to 0-6 on the year. The defeat marked the first time the Lions lost six games in a season since 1966 and only the fifth time in program history.

Offensively, the Lions committed six turnovers while only mustering 226 yards of total offense on nine drives.

Trailing, 10-0, Pope John had two golden opportunities in the second quarter to score that it could not capitalize on.

The first came during a Delbarton punt return when the ball was ruled to hit Delbarton's returner before he just let it go by him, and Pope John was able to recover it at the Delbarton 40. That Lions drive ended when they could not earn a first down on a fourth-and-2.

The second chance occurred after they got the ball back following an interception from sophomore defensive back Sean Brennan. After senior running back Jacob Huhn rushed for 32 yards on four carries, the Lions eventually worked the ball deep into the red zone. That opportunity ended when a fumble on first-and-goal from the 5-yard line was scooped and scored by Michael Jarmolowich for an 85-yard touchdown and a 17-0 Delbarton lead.

In the third quarter, the Lions forced two turnovers — an interception by junior defensive back Miguel Lopez when he perfectly read an inside breaking route and jumped in front of a Delbarton wide receiver and a forced fumble by senior defensive lineman Louis Montana that was recovered by senior linebacker Chris Sabo. However, they could not take advantage of them due to two turnovers they committed as well on their ensuing drives.

Defensively, the Lions did manage to force four turnovers, but allowed two touchdowns and two field goals.



DELBARTON 27, POPE JOHN 0

	1	2	3	4	F
Delbarton	10	7	3	7	27
Pope John	0	0	0	0	0

TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	DELBARTON
POINTS	0	27
PLAYS	49	57
DRIVES	9	8
RUSH PLAYS	35	29
RUSH YDS	145	170
PASS PLAYS	15	22
PASS YDS	96	108
TOTAL YDS	226	273
PENALTIES	6	6
PENALTY YDS	56	67
TURNOVERS	6	4
INTERCEPTIONS	2	2
FUMBLES	3	2
PUNTS	2	0

GAME LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 14 car for 49 yds

Delbarton: Gary Lewis III 16 car for 100 yds

PASSING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 5-of-10, 49 yds, 2 INT

Delbarton: Cole Freeman 12-of-22, 108 yds, 1 TD, 2 INT

RECEIVING

Pope John: Anthony Caputo 3 rec for 40 yds

Delbarton: Gary Lewis III 5 rec for 70 yds

DEFENSE

Pope John: Anthony Holmes 7 tkls

Delbarton: Michael Jarmolowich, 1 FR, 1 TD

GAME 7 RECAP: LIONS FALL SHORT IN UPSET BID OF BERGEN CATHOLIC



BERGEN CATHOLIC 14, POPE JOHN 6

	1	2	3	4	F
Pope John	0	0	6	0	6
BC	7	0	7	0	14

TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	BERGEN CATHOLIC
POINTS	6	14
PLAYS	47	61
DRIVES	11	11
RUSH PLAYS	13	41
RUSH YDS	24	236
PASS PLAYS	29	22
PASS YDS	171	108
TOTAL YDS	172	344
PENALTIES	6	5
PENALTY YDS	34	46
TURNOVERS	1	4
INTERCEPTIONS	1	2
FUMBLES	0	3
PUNTS	9	2

GAME LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Nafis Matthews 4 car for 16 yds

Bergen Catholic: Rahmir Johnson 18 car for 117 yds

PASSING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 16-of-29, 171 yds, 1 TD, 1 INT

Bergen Catholic: Andrew Boel 12-of-22, 108 yds, 2 INT

RECEIVING

Pope John: Ryan Dengler 6 rec for 96 yds, 1 TD

Bergen Catholic: Tyler Devera 4 rec for 21 yds

DEFENSE

Pope John: Mike DeNucci 16 tkls

Bergen Catholic: Jeremiah Grant 7 tkls, 3 sacks

GAME 8 RECAP: LIONS ALLOW SECOND-QUARTER SURGE TO ST. PETER'S, SLIP TO 0-8

SPARTA — The Lions hung tough for one quarter against state-ranked St. Peter's Prep, but the Marauders scored four touchdowns in the second quarter en route to topping Pope John, 43-6, at Pope John XXIII High School.

With the loss, the Lions fell to 0-8 on the year. The defeat marked the first time the Lions lost eight games in a season since 1966 and only the fifth time in program history.

Coming off a tough 14-6 loss to top-ranked Bergen Catholic on the road, the Lions looked as if they were going to give St. Peter's — a team ranked No. 2 in the state by both Max Preps and NJ.com — a run for its money after trailing, 7-6, through the first quarter.

The Lions had fumbled on the game's opening drive and allowed a touchdown run on St. Peter's first drive, but managed to march 60 yards in eight plays — highlighted by senior quarterback Niko Hroncich rushing for 25 yards on two plays and a 17-yard catch from senior wide receiver Taj Jones — on their next drive to score a TD. Senior running back Jacob Huhn scored the TD on a 5-yard run, but the Lions could not tie the game after they misplayed the snap on the extra-point attempt and wound up throwing an incomplete pass on the play.

Unfortunately for them, the Lions could not get any closer to the Marauders, as the Hudson County power scored 26 points in the second quarter on a rushing touchdown, an interception that was returned for a TD, and two passing touchdowns that were from 21 and 57 yards out, respectively, to take a 33-6 halftime lead. The Marauders added 10 more points in the fourth quarter to seal the victory.

Offensively, the Lions only had 156 yards of total offense and committed five turnovers. Hroncich led the team by accumulating 93 of those 156 yards, as he threw for 58 yards and ran for 35 yards.

Defensively, the Lions yielded 309 yards to the Marauders. Senior defensive back Chris Rodriguez and senior linebacker Chris Sabo paced the Lions with 11 tackles apiece.



ST. PETER'S PREP 43, POPE JOHN 6

	1	2	3	4	F
St. Peter's	7	26	0	10	43
Pope John	6	0	0	0	6

TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	ST. PETER'S PREP
POINTS	6	43
PLAYS	53	57
DRIVES	12	11
RUSH PLAYS	29	41
RUSH YDS	85	149
PASS PLAYS	22	14
PASS YDS	84	160
TOTAL YDS	156	309
PENALTIES	9	7
PENALTY YDS	90	55
TURNOVERS	5	2
INTERCEPTIONS	1	0
FUMBLES	2	1
PUNTS	5	2

GAME LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 5 car for 35 yds

St. Peter's Prep: Anthony Summey 9 car for 46 yds, 2 TD

PASSING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 5-of-7, 58 yds

St. Peter's Prep: Maasai Maynor 6-of-10, 146 yds, 2 TD

RECEIVING

Pope John: Taj Jones 3 rec for 42 yds

St. Peter's Prep: Ayir Asante 3 rec for 111 yds, 2 TD

DEFENSE

Pope John: Chris Rodriguez and Chris Sabo 11 tkls

St. Peter's Prep: Dalmoni Falconer 10 tkls, 1 FF

GAME 9 RECAP: LIONS RALLY TO BEAT SETON HALL PREP FOR 1ST WIN



POPE JOHN 30, SETON HALL PREP 20

	1	2	3	4	F
Pope John	8	0	15	7	30
SHP	0	17	0	3	20

TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	SETON HALL PREP
POINTS	30	20
PLAYS	57	66
DRIVES	14	13
RUSH PLAYS	31	31
RUSH YDS	295	92
PASS PLAYS	21	30
PASS YDS	191	150
TOTAL YDS	461	213
PENALTIES	13	8
PENALTY YDS	117	70
TURNOVERS	2	2
INTERCEPTIONS	0	0
FUMBLES	1	2
PUNTS	4	7

GAME LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 15 car for 187 yds, 1 TD

Seton Hall Prep: Aidan Gilman 17 car for 29 yds, 1 TD

PASSING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 10-of-21, 191 yds, 3 TD, 2 2-pt conv.

Seton Hall Prep: Aidan Gilman 17-of-29, 147 yds

RECEIVING

Pope John: Jarelle Robinson 2 rec for 100 yds, 1 TD

Seton Hall Prep: Giye Jenkins 6 rec for 61 yds

DEFENSE

Pope John: Mike DeNucci 9 tkls, 3 sacks, 2 FF, 1 FR. 6 hurries

Seton Hall Prep: Niko Diakides 9 tkls, 3 sacks, 1 FF, 1 safety

GAME 10 RECAP: LIONS BEGIN NEW SEASON, MAUL ST. JOHN VIANNEY TO OPEN STATES

HOLMDEL — After enduring one of the toughest regular seasons in school history, the Lions rejuvenated their hopes of competing for a state championship by beating St. John Vianney, 33-12, on Friday in the first round of the Non-Public, Group 3 tournament at St. John Vianney High School.

With the win, the Lions are 2-8 on the year and have won two games in a row since starting the year 0-8. More importantly, the victory allowed the Lions to advance to the sectional semifinals for the third straight season.

The Lions will play top-seeded Red Bank Catholic for the right to play in the Non-Public, Group 3 championship game — a game they have not reached since 2013.

The Lions began their new season at 1-0 in large part due to a big second-quarter effort in which they scored 20 of their 33 points on the Lancers.

Clinging to a 7-6 lead, the Lions recovered a Lancers' fumble on the St. John Vianney 2-yard line, then extended their lead to 14-6 after senior running back Chris Rodriguez rushed for a touchdown from 2 yards out. On the ensuing St. John Vianney drive, the Lions received a big play from special teams, as senior defensive back Bryan Vargas blocked the Lancers' punt and senior defensive lineman Ireland Burke caught the ball in the air and rumbled his way to a 41-yard touchdown to make it a 21-6 lead for the Lions.

Then with 1:24 left in the half, senior quarterback Niko Hroncich found junior wide receiver Menyelek Ward for a 10-yard touchdown to make it a 27-6 advantage.

Though the Lions gave up a touchdown before the end of the first half, they put the game away in the fourth quarter after junior Justin Hertlein converted two field goals (21 and 28 yards).

Rodriguez led the Lions' offense, rushing for 118 yards and two TDs on 29 carries. Defensively, junior linebacker Mike DeNucci paced the Lions with five tackles, 1 1/2 sacks, two forced fumbles and one fumble recovery.



POPE JOHN 33, ST. JOHN VIANNEY 12

	1	2	3	4	F
Pope John	7	20	0	6	33
SJV	6	6	0	0	12

TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	ST. JOHN VIANNEY
POINTS	33	12
PLAYS	60	41
DRIVES	12	12
RUSH PLAYS	38	20
RUSH YDS	123	85
PASS PLAYS	17	18
PASS YDS	117	118
TOTAL YDS	219	184
PENALTIES	11	7
PENALTY YDS	123	60
TURNOVERS	2	5
INTERCEPTIONS	0	2
FUMBLES	2	3
PUNTS	3	4

GAME LEADERS

RUSHING

Pope John: Chris Rodriguez 29 car for 118 yds, 2 TD

St. John Vianney: Kevon Chambers 9 car for 63 yds

PASSING

Pope John: Niko Hroncich 7-of-16, 102 yds, 1 TD

St. John Vianney: C.J. Duell 8-of-18, 118 yds, 2 TD, 2 INT

RECEIVING

Pope John: Taj Jones 2 rec for 49 yds

St. John Vianney: Jayden Bellamy 2 rec for 64 yds, 1 TD

DEFENSE

Pope John: Mike DeNucci 5 tkls, 1.5 sacks, 2 FF, 1 FR

St. John Vianney: N/A

2018 POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SEASON TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	OPPONENTS
POINTS	123 (12.3 ppg)	276 (27.6 ppg)
PLAYS	515	545
DRIVES	113	110
RUSH PLAYS	273	326
RUSH YDS	1,123	1,752
PASS PLAYS	230	178
PASS YDS	1,448	1,266
TOTAL YDS	2,571	2,970
PENALTIES	69	77
PENALTY YDS	569	618
TURNOVERS	30	23
INTERCEPTIONS	6	10
FUMBLES	18	15
TURNOVER ON DOWNS	10	3
PUNTS	49	34

2018 POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL OFFENSIVE INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

PASSING							
Name	Completions	Attempts	Comp %	Pass Yds	Avg. Yds Per Comp	TDs	INTs
Niko Hroncich	85	177	48.4	1,033	12.2	7	3
Peter Delaportas	21	51	41.2	365	17.3	1	3
Anthony Caputo	2	2	1.000	50	25.0	0	0
TOTAL	108	230	47.0	1,448	13.4	8	6

RUSHING				
Name	Carries	Yds	Avg. Yds Per Carry	TDs
Jacob Huhn	65	246	3.8	2
Nafis Matthews	56	236	4.2	3
Niko Hroncich	59	386	6.5	1
Peter Delaportas	14	29	2.1	0
Chris Rodriguez	47	198	4.2	2
Anthony Caputo	9	45	4.4	0
Tyler Zummo	4	28	7.0	0
Menyelek Ward	2	1	0.5	0
Chris Sabo	1	7	7.0	0
Jarelle Robinson	1	-7	-7.0	0
Team Rush	15	-46	-3.4	0
TOTAL	273	1,123	4.1	8

RECEIVING				
Name	Rec	Rec Yds	Avg. Yds Per Catch	TDs
Ryan Dengler	30	601	20.0	4
Tajimier Jones	25	355	14.2	0
Jarelle Robinson	8	140	17.5	1
Nafis Matthews	2	7	3.5	0
Menyelek Ward	22	193	8.8	3
Zachary Cuttito	1	8	8.0	0
Anthony Caputo	16	109	6.8	0
Ryan Rumanowski	1	16	16.0	0
Bryan Vargas	1	15	15.0	0
Jacob Huhn	1	4	4.0	0
Anthony Holmes	1	0	0.0	0
TOTAL	108	1,448	13.4	8

2018 POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL OFFENSIVE INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

SPECIAL TEAMS	Punt Returns			Kickoff Returns			Punts		Field Goals			
Name	Ret.	Punt Ret. Yds	Punt Ret. TD	Ret.	Ret. Yds	Ret. TD	Punts	Punt Yds	FGM	FGA	XPM	XPA
Chris Rodriguez	5	44	0	13	261	0						
Menyelek Ward	1	-4	0	7	106	0						
Miguel Lopez				4	74	0						
Tyler Zummo				6	91	0						
Jarelle Robinson				3	46	0						
Messiah Muckle				1	20	0						
Sean Brennan				1	5	0						
Ryan Dengler	5	8	0									
Justin Hertlein							48	1,231	2	4	11	14
Collin Mills							1	36				
TOTAL	11	48	0	35	603	0	49	1,267	2	4	11	14

2018 POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL DEFENSIVE INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Name	Solo	Assisted	Hurries	Sacks	Total Tkls	FF	FR	INT	PD	Punt Blk	Kick Blk	TD
Mike DeNucci	38	40	8	4.5	78	4	2	2	2	1		
Chris Sabo	27	49	2		76	1	2		2			
Jasmir Taylor	15	17	1	4	32							
Ireland Burke	23	29	3	2	52	1	1					1
Pedro Calderon	4	15	3	0.5	19	1	2					
Anthony Holmes	22	25			47	1	2	3	2			
Miguel Lopez	10	24			34			1	3			
Zachary Cuttito	6	14			20			2				
Connor Milks	12	5			17				1			
Jordan Quintero	1	5			6	1						
Sean Brennan	14	18			32		1	1	1			
Nicholas DeSenzo	1	14			15		1				2	
Tajimier Jones	5	1			6							
Colin Roberts	1	3			4							
Chris Rodriguez	23	27	4	2	50	3			1			
Billy Gould	5	3			8			1	2			
Issiaha Robinson	1	1			2							
Cole Zydel	0	2			2							
Louis Montana	8	7	1	4	15	1						
Gio Potente	3	2	1		5		1		1			
Jahsin Jacobs	0	4			4							
Julian Canty	4	1	1		5							
Justin Hertlein	4	1			5							
Mike Stellatella	4	11			15							
Jacob Huhn	1	1			2							
Ryan Rumanowski	1	2			3							
Dan Rosario	2	1			3		1					
Bryan Vargas	17	22	1		39				1	1		
Charlie Lauzon	2	1			3							
Ryan Dengler	1	0			1							
Luke Dykstra	0	1			1							
Collin Mills	1	0			1							
Niko Hroncich	1	0			1							
Tyler Zummo	0	1			1							
Anthony Caputo	1	0			1							
Ethan Doumbe	0	2			2							
TOTAL	258	349	25	17	607	13	13	10	16	2	2	1

2017 POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SEASON RESULTS



Date	Opponent	W/L	Score
9/2	Bishop McNamara (Md.)	W	32-7
9/8	at Lake Gibson (Fla.)	Canceled	
9/16	Malvern Prep (Pa.)	W	27-10
9/23	Delbarton*	W	49-14
9/30	at Seton Hall Prep*	W	49-28
10/7	Paramus Catholic	W	43-7
10/14	at St. Joseph-Montvale	L	20-14
10/21	at Bergen Catholic	L	20-19
10/27	at DePaul*	L	35-0
11/11	Donovan Catholic**	W	53-7
11/18	St. Joseph-Montvale**	L	28-7

*NJSFC United White Division game

**Non-Public, Group 3 playoff game

NJSFC United White Division Standings

	Div.	%	Overall	%
1. DePaul	3-0	1.000	8-3	.727
2. Pope John	2-1	.667	6-4	.600
3. Seton Hall Prep	1-2	.333	2-8	.200
4. Delbarton	0-3	.000	3-8	.272

2017 POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

The Lions had a lot of highs and lows during their 6-4 season in which it finished second in the North Jersey Super Football Conference United White Division and reached the Non-Public, Group 3 semifinals for the second consecutive season.

During the season, the Lions reached as high as No. 4 in the News12 Varsity Tri-State Top 20 poll, No. 6 in the NJ.com Top 20 poll, No. 7 in the USA Today High School Sports Super 25 East Regional rankings and No. 98 in the High School Football America Top 100.

They accomplished these feats by winning their first five games in a row, which included their first victory over an out-of-state opponent (Bishop McNamara of Maryland) and their first win over Paramus Catholic since they started playing the Paladins annually four years ago. They also took Bergen Catholic, the consensus No. 1 team in the Tri-State area, down to the wire in a regular season clash on the road before falling, 20-19, to the Crusaders — the eventual Non-Public, Group 4 champions.

The Lions ended up losing four of their last five games to St. Joseph-Montvale (twice), Bergen Catholic and



DePaul — the eventual Non-Public, Group 3 champion.

The Lions' lone victory during this stretch was a 53-7 win over Donovan Catholic in the first round of Non-Public, Group 3. Their season ended with a 28-7 loss to St. Joe's in the Non-Public, Group 3 semifinals.

2017 POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SEASON TEAM STATISTICS

	POPE JOHN	OPPONENTS
POINTS	293 (29.3 ppg)	176 (17.6 ppg)
PLAYS	504	490
DRIVES	102	101
RUSH PLAYS	317	319
RUSH YDS	1,544	968
PASS PLAYS	186	171
PASS YDS	1,092	938
TOTAL YDS	2,636	1,906
PENALTIES	70	46
PENALTY YDS	599	401
TURNOVERS	16	34
INTERCEPTIONS	6	12
FUMBLES	0	13
TURNOVER ON DOWNS	10	9
PUNTS	37	40

2017 POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL OFFENSIVE INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

PASSING							
Name	Completions	Attempts	Comp %	Pass Yds	Avg. Yds Per Comp	TDs	INTs
Niko Hroncich	107	179	59.8	1,053	9.8	14	5
Samuel Darrell	3	5	60.0	39	13.0	0	0
Nick DeNucci	0	2	0.0	0	0.0	0	1
TOTAL	110	186	59.1	1,092	9.9	14	6

RUSHING				
Name	Carries	Yds	Avg. Yds Per Carry	TDs
Terrance Jones	133	678	5.1	6
Berrell Neal	78	618	7.9	12
Jacob Huhn	21	122	5.8	1
Nick DeNucci	16	85	0.0	1
Samuel Darrell	14	77	5.5	1
Niko Hroncich	33	-60	-1.8	1
Eddie Torres	5	11	2.2	0
Tim Fitzpatrick	3	12	4.0	1
Chris Rodriguez	1	12	12.0	0
Daniel Rosario	1	6	6.0	1
Ron Fox	1	9	9.0	0
Zach Cuttito	1	-1	-1.0	0
Team Rush	10	-25	-2.5	0
TOTAL	317	1,544	4.9	24

2017 POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL OFFENSIVE INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RECEIVING				
Name	Rec	Rec Yds	Avg. Yds Per Catch	TDs
Tajimier Jones	27	308	11.4	3
Berrell Neal	23	230	10.0	3
Samuel Darrell	33	277	8.4	2
Ryan Dengler	13	177	13.6	4
Terrance Jones	5	28	5.6	0
Anthony Holmes	3	25	8.3	0
Ron Fox	2	12	6.0	1
Jason Miller	1	13	13.0	0
Nick DeNucci	1	8	8.0	1
Tim Fitzpatrick	1	8	8.0	0
Trevor Cregg	1	6	6.0	0
TOTAL	110	1,092	9.9	14

2017 POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL DEFENSIVE INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Name	Solo	Assisted	Hurries	Sacks	Total Tkls	FF	FR	INT	PD
Jake Brown	42	57	3	2	101	4	2	1	3
Jhadir Charles	11	15	0	0	26	0	0	3	13
Nick DeSenzo	4	12	1	0	16	0	0	0	0
Nick DeNucci	49	60	10	6.5	115.5	3	2	0	0
Ron Fox	7	16	5	1	24	0	0	0	0
Jordan Francois	14	34	7	4	52	1	3	0	0
Ryan Greenhagen	40	65	11	2.5	107.5	3	1	2	0
Anthony Holmes	9	15	0	0	24	0	1	0	4
Ty Hranicka	30	29	7	2	61	1	0	1	1
John Marquez	11	22	5	1.5	34.5	1	1	0	0
Louis Montana	14	21	7	4	39	0	0	0	0
Aidan Murray	14	34	6	2.5	50.5	1	0	0	0
Richie Peters	5	8	1	1	14	0	0	0	0
Joe Quitademo	7	9	0	0	16	0	0	2	3
Chris Rodriguez	23	18	0	0	41	1	3	0	1
Chris Sabo	8	5	0	0	13	0	0	0	1
Gio Tricarico	31	24	0	0	55	0	0	3	6
TOTAL	319	444	63	27	790	15	13	12	32