After winning the first Section 1 Class B title and coveted gold ball in school history last March, Putnam Valley High girls’ hoop Coach Kristi Dini, senior F Arianna Stockinger (L) and super soph Eva DeChent (R) are brimming with pride and hope as they enter an abbreviated 2021 season due to the limitations that come with competing during the COVID-19 pandemic, which will limit Examiner-area teams to a 12-game season and a regionalized playoff format if and when local health officials give final clearance for “high-risk” indoor competition. As of Monday morning, Putnam and Westchester County executives had given the green light to play but -- key to everything -- department of health officials had not released authorization or guidelines to school superintendents. Stay tuned!... see Girls’ Hoops Previews
Sports

Hope Springs Eternal for Section 1 Hoopers

Local Teams Begin Preparation for Abbreviated 12-Game Season

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor@Directrays

It looks like it’s finally here: Go time! As of Monday’s Examiner deadline, some of the hurdles and hoops had been jumped over and through to get a Section 1 girls’ basketball season underway. NYS Gov. Andrew Cuomo and local county executives agreed to permit high-risk sports to #LetThemPlay despite the potentially harmful effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, student athletes, coaches and superintendents were still awaiting clearance from department of health officials throughout NYS, including the four counties comprising Section 1: Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess and Rockland.

School superintendents and athletic directors are awaiting final word, concerned that potentially unrealistic modifications and mandates that could complicate the situation. That said, players and coaches are prepared to do whatever they need to do to have an abbreviated season, with a 12-game regular season and a regionalized playoff format similar to what Section 1 had in the fall.

“We have been waiting for senior year for a long time,” Walter Panas senior Caileen Nolan said. “We are so excited and grateful that we are having a season. As a team, we want to thank everyone that made it possible for us to have some sort of season. We are psyched to get back in the gym and practice this week. It’s been a while, but basket-

ball is back!”

We reached out to every girls’ hoops coach in the Examiner region from White Plains to the Dutchess County border for team-based information, and discovered that while most programs are excited to begin the 2021 season, there is so much work to do before we see something resembling what we’re used to. Many players won’t be in “game shape” when the season starts, they won’t be as sharp in their sets, nor will they be completely familiar with coaching systems, especially rookies. So, it could be a few weeks before we see teams in “game shape,” playing with tempo and continuity, and before we know it the season will be over if it ever starts. Strap up, buckle in and accept that it is what it is.

CONFERENCE I-II
LEAGUE C

Ossining, Hen Hud, Peekskill, Lakeland, Panas

HENDRICK HUDSON

2019-20 Record & playoff result: 23-1 Section 1 Class A champs as No.2 seed Coach: Ken Sherman (12th season, 1 sectional title, 2 league titles)

Key Returners: Caitlin Weimar (23.4 points per game and 16.3 rebounds per game); Mylene Smith; Jacky Kenny

Key Departures: Ken Sherman (12th season, 1 sectional title, 2 league titles)

Key Returners: senior G Grace Moretti (HM All Section/All League), senior G Kira Varada (All-Tournament Final 4, All-League); junior G Colleen Ryan

Key newcomes: Jr. G Alex Figueroa (amazing story, survived bone cancer her freshman year and sat out last year due to extensive treatments); Kaitlyn Ragu, 8th grade; Shannon Ellis, Jr. (daunting task of replacing Weimar)

League Favorites: Ossining and Panas. Panthers return many players and have a solid team. Ossining will be down by Ossining standards, but Coach Ricci will still be a favorite.

By the Numbers: Moretti (9.9 PPG); Varada, (7.3 PPG + energy)

Team Goals: Haven't set too many team goals yet but that is because of the uncertainty of everything going on. We have been able to have a few off season workouts so we will see.

Coach’s Comments: Unfortunately, last year is over. I am probably one of the few that did not want 2020 to end. I am so excited at the opportunity to coach again and will do everything in my power to make this a safe and enjoyable season for these girls. This will be your typical Hen Hud team that will be in your face for 32 minutes and play continued on next page

Hen Hud senior G Grace Moretti returns to lead the reigning Section 1 Class A champion Sailors.
Ossining senior Tamia Dimmie will have to take on a massive amount of responsibility for Pride in 2021. Lakeland senior F Amanda Cole will play a major role for 2021 Hornets. Peekskill 8th-grader Bethany Overby is a cut above the rest.

WALTER PANAS
2019-20 Record & playoff result: 15-7, No.7 seed lost in the quarterfinals to eventual champ Hen Hud
Key Departures: Kristen Scrobola (Manhattanville); Kat Reynoso
Key Returning Players: Alex Sudol - PG, Senior, 5', 4th year on varsity; Kristen Cinquina - G, Senior, 5', All League, All Conference (sophomore), All Section (junior); Cailean Nolan - G, senior 5', All League (sophomore), All Conference (junior); Kelsey Cregan - F, soph., 5', Edeina Rraci - C, senior 5', 13'1; Elizabeth Bergamini - F, junior 5', Lindsay Kagan - G, junior, 5', 13'1
Key Newcomers: Tyler Dendy (Chris the King transfer)
By the Numbers: Cinquina and Nolan both averaged 14 PPG last year, Rraci 8 PPG, 7 RPG, Cregan (5 RPG)
League Favorite: Panas
Team Goals: 100% Effort always; Enjoy this gift of a season; Win our league and any post-season tournaments.
Coach’s Comments: This is one of the best returning teams that I have ever had. We return four players who have regularly started and our first forward (Cregan) off the bench from last year. We hope to build off the success of recent years and have another very successful season. We are hoping to play fast and space the floor to allow Rraci to score in the post and give Cinquina and Nolan room to drive and get open looks. We should be able to defend at a high level as well. Sudol will help run the team and bring leadership along with the other seniors. I am just so thankful that this group that has been such a huge part of the program for many years will have a great chance to compete during their senior year.

PEEKSILL
2019-20 Record & playoff result: 4-16
Coach: HC Jaycee DeGroat, Asst Heather Ausiello
Key Departures: Sage Overskei-North, early graduation
Key Returning Players: Bethani Overby (8th Grade); Takyla Cowan-Hongach (Jr); Amani Clevelan (Jr); Afua Yeboah (Jr); Kiara Mercado (Jr)
Key Newcomers: TBA
By the Numbers; Overby averaged 10 PPG and 10 RPG as a rookie 7th grader. That is potential through the roof.
Coach's Comments: We are very excited to get back into the gym. We are going to try and block out all the distractions of Covid and focus on working on our craft. This season will be like no other season, and we will try and get every bit of enjoyment out of it we can. This is the second year in a row we will feature returners that are not seniors. That is very exciting in terms of long term growth and development.

LAKELAND
Coach: Miranda Mangan (19-20 record, 5-15 last season)
Key Departures: graduated three players, two starters, including Alexa Cole
Top returning players: senior G Amanda Cole (led the team in rebounds last season); All-League junior G/F Hannah Devane (led the team in scoring); junior G Tyler Hormazabal; fresh. PG Nichole Ljuljic; senior G Sarah Pinkowski; senior G Nancy Pagniari; senior F Nicole Haughney; senior F Angelina Ameneiros
Newcomers: TBD
Coach’s Comments: We are very grateful for the opportunity to be able to have some sort of a season. Our student athletes have been through a lot this past year and we are looking forward to a return of some sort of normalcy. We return a core group of players that saw a lot of action last season, mixed with talented youth. We hope to have a balanced scoring attack and use our versatility on defense to makeup for our lack of size. Overall we just want the girls to have fun and enjoy every moment of the season.

LEAGUE B
Mahopac, Carmel, Somers, Yorktown, Brewster
Talk about a tough competitive league, look no further than here. Mahopac is looking like the team to beat based on all the Indians return this winter, including five gritty starters who have improved significantly in the off-season, plus a spark off the bench. It’s hard not to like Mahopac to win this league outright and challenge deep into the playoffs. However, both Yorktown and Brewster bring back a solid nucleus of veteran players looking to build on solid 2020 campaigns, and all three would be contenders for a Putnam-Northern Westchester regional playoff title should there be such a tournament. It’s the start of a new era in Somers, who will be without graduated point guard Dan DiCin-tio for the first time since 2016. Carmel may struggle to keep pace as they graduate six seniors and take on a new coach.
Girls’ Hoops Preview

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MAHOPAC
2019-20 record & playoff result: 15-7, No.5 seed lost in quarterfinals to No.4 Albertus
Coach: Chuck Scozzafava (1 sectional title, 1 regional title, 1 NYS Championship, 5 league titles)
Key Departures: None
Key Returning Players: All-Section Caitlyn O’Boyle, senior; C; All-Conference Mia Klammer, senior, G/F; All-Conference Melanie DeMeo, junior, G; Lauren Beberman, soph., G/F; Julie DeBrocky, junior, G; Julia Paolicelli, junior, G; Kristina Rush, soph., G; Marissa McCarney, junior F; Amanda Beberman, senior, F
Key newcomers: Gianna Rispoli, soph., G; Jessica Sterbens, soph., C
League favorite: No clue.
By the numbers: O’Boyle averaged a double double PPG/RPG. Klammer and DeMeo both averaged double digits.
Team goal: Haven’t had the conversation with the girls yet.
Comments: I just want the girls to play hard and improve on the good season we had last year.

YORKTOWN
2019-20 record & playoff result: 10-12, No.15 seed beat Nanuet 50-34 (out-bracket), lost 45-42 at No.2 Hen Hud opening round
Coach: Brian Mundy, 3rd season, 23-20
2019-20 Record & playoff result: 15-7, No.5 seed lost in quarterfinals to No.4 Albertus
Coach: Chuck Scozzafava (1 sectional title, 1 regional title, 1 NYS Championship, 5 league titles)
Key Departures: None
Key Returning Players: All-Section Caitlyn O’Boyle, senior; C; All-Conference Mia Klammer, senior, G/F; All-Conference Melanie DeMeo, junior, G; Lauren Beberman, soph., G/F; Julie DeBrocky, junior, G; Julia Paolicelli, junior, G; Kristina Rush, soph., G; Marissa McCarney, junior F; Amanda Beberman, senior, F
Key newcomers: Gianna Rispoli, soph., G; Jessica Sterbens, soph., C
League favorite: No clue.
By the numbers: O’Boyle averaged a double double PPG/RPG. Klammer and DeMeo both averaged double digits.
Team goal: Haven’t had the conversation with the girls yet.
Comments: I just want the girls to play hard and improve on the good season we had last year.

SOMERS
2019-20 record & playoff result: 10-12, No.14 seed outbracket win vs Eastchester, opening-round loss to TZ
Coach: Mike Castaldo, 89-74
Key Returning Players – Bears return the entire starting five from last season: Center- Grace Galgano, Forward-Alexis Mark, Guard-Carly DeLanoy, Guard-Madison Dakin, Guard- Sophia Alzugaray, and reserves Guard- Adrianna Calicchia, Guard- Sam Ferrara, Center-Liana Riley, Center-Katie Bergstrom
League Favorite- We are in a new league this year due to COVID so this will be the first time we will be seeing Carmel and Mahopac in a while. I know Mahopac is very good and return a lot of key players from last year that were very successful in AA. (Mahopac, Carmel, Somers, Yorktown, Brewster)
By the Numbers: Grace Galgano led the team in points and rebounds and led the section in blocked shots last season. Alexis Mark almost averaged a double-double with 10 points, 9 boards a game.
Team Goals: This season we want to take advantage of this opportunity and play as many games as we are allowed. If there are some type of modified playoffs we would love to make a deep run considering we return everyone back from last season.
Coach’s Comments: We are really looking forward to this opportunity and getting back to doing what we love. Everyone needs to be smart and realize we may only get one shot at this season. Let’s take advantage of this, have a lot of fun and hopefully win some games in the process.

BREWSTER
2019-20 Record & playoff result: 12-10 No.14 seed outbracket win vs Eastchester, opening-round loss to TZ
Coach: Mike Castaldo, 89-74
Key Returning Players – Bears return the entire starting five from last season: Center- Grace Galgano, Forward-Alexis Mark, Guard-Carly DeLanoy, Guard-Madison Dakin, Guard- Sophia Alzugaray, and reserves Guard- Adrianna Calicchia, Guard- Sam Ferrara, Center-Liana Riley, Center-Katie Bergstrom
League Favorite- We are in a new league this year due to COVID so this will be the first time we will be seeing Carmel and Mahopac in a while. I know Mahopac is very good and return a lot of key players from last year that were very successful in AA. (Mahopac, Carmel, Somers, Yorktown, Brewster)
By the Numbers: Grace Galgano led the team in points and rebounds and led the section in blocked shots last season. Alexis Mark almost averaged a double-double with 10 points, 9 boards a game.
Team Goals: This season we want to take advantage of this opportunity and play as many games as we are allowed. If there are some type of modified playoffs we would love to make a deep run considering we return everyone back from last season.
Coach’s Comments: We are really looking forward to this opportunity and getting back to doing what we love. Everyone needs to be smart and realize we may only get one shot at this season. Let’s take advantage of this, have a lot of fun and hopefully win some games in the process.

SOMERS
2019-20 Record & playoff result: 15-7, No.8 seed lost in quarters to No.1 Rye

By the Numbers:
Key Returning Players: Ashley Zeolla (F, Sr., 6’0”, All-League 2019-20, All-League HM 2017-18 and 2018-19); Melissa Severino (G, Jr., 5’7”); Emily Ward (G, So., 5’3”); Olivia Lucas (G, So., 5’6”); Alyssa Perrino (F, Sr., 5’8”); Hailey Caricati (F, Sr., 5’6”); Erisa Krasniqi (F, Jr., 5’10”); Artesa Gashi (F, Jr., 5’10”)
League Favorite (top teams to watch): No idea (maybe Mahopac)

By the Numbers (top scoring/rebounding averages of returnees): Ashley Zeolla 11 pts., 8 reb. Melissa Severino (10 pts., 5 reb., 30-3FG); Emily Ward (5 pts., 4.5 reb); Olivia Lucas (in 5 games being pulled up from JV: 5.4 pts., 8-3FG), Perrino (4.0 reb.), Caricati, Krasniqi and Gashi are forwards that all contributed throughout last season who could figure into the starting mix at times.
Team Goals: To get through the season with everyone safe and healthy. Be as competitive as possible while playing as aggressively as possible, while enjoying our family atmosphere after such a tough year.

Coach’s Comments: “I’m so proud of these kids for taking the safety precautions seriously while we’ve been having workouts. They know what to expect during the season so there won’t be many surprises. They’re chomping at the bit to compete seriously while we’ve been having workouts. We all enjoy being competitive as possible while playing as aggressively as possible, while enjoying our family atmosphere after such a tough year.

Everyone has positive attitudes and the girls feed off each other.”
Yorktown senior F Ashley Zeola is set up for monster season after earning All-League in 2020.

Expect big things from Fox Lane senior G Natalie Pence.

Yorktown senior F Ashley Zeola is set up for monster season after earning All-League in 2020.
Coach: Tara Ryan, Assistant Kim Reznicek (league titles in 2018-19)

Key Returning Players: Beth Corelli G, JR All-Section HM; Grace Corelli G, Fr; Gabby Ripka Sr. G.; Olivia Picca: SR, G All League; Olivia Barry JR, G

Key Newcomers: TBD!

League Favorite: new league, not sure yet.

By the Numbers: Beth Corelli (13 PPG), Picca (7 PPG, 6 RPG), Ripka (5 PPG)

Team Goals: Rebound and run!

FOX LANE

2019-20 Record & Playoff Result: 10-11, No.11 seed lost to No.6 Ossining in opening round

Coach: Kristopher Matts

Key Departures: Sofia Zinzi (her rebounding and shot blocking will be difficult to replace); Sophia Garten (only real height Foxes had, anchor of defense)

Key Returning Players: NYU-bound Natalie Pence: Senior Captain-Guard, 5’9” 2X All-League/All-Conf. (twice) 1,000 point scorer (194 away from the all-time school record); Holly Ades: Senior Captain-Guard, 5’10”; Quoya Schnell; Junior Guard, 5’3”; All-League; Nicole Pecinich Junior Guard, 5’3” (does the dirty work); Susannah Kimsal Junior Forward, 5’8”; Lauren Antolino Freshman Guard, 5’4” (a precocious talent); Ella Bahari Junior Forward, 5’9”; Ibby Moccia Junior Guard, 5’6”; Rachel Ward: Junior Forward, 5’11”; Jordan Daglio: Senior Forward, 5’9”

By the Numbers: Pence (15 PPG/RPG, 4 APG, 2 BPG)

Team Goals: Improve on last year’s successes while giving more responsibility to younger players.

Coach’s Comments: We overachieved last year, doubling our win total from the year prior. With a young squad, we may be ahead of schedule, but in this strange environment, I am looking to maintain our progress while making sure everyone has as much fun as possible. We want to win every single game, but as long as I see a ball in everyone’s hands, the season is already a success. We go as Natalie goes. Lucky for us, that’s usually a positive direction. She’s a consummate leader, a cold-blooded shooter, a natural scorer, a phenomenal passer, an underrated rebounder, and a surprising shot blocker. Holly sees passing angles no one else does. She can shoot the lights out, having the best form in the program, but she’d usually rather make the game winning pass. Last year was Quoya’s coming out party. Her jumper keeps you honest, but her knack for getting to the rim means you need to pick your poison.

CONFERENCE III CENTRAL

Rye Neck, Blind Brook, Briarcliff, Pleasantville, Valhalla, Westlake

Briarcliff hasn’t lost many league titles under veteran Coach Don Hamlin, but rival Pleasantville is sure to challenge in 2021 with its entire roster returning. With 16 league titles since 1995, the Bears are always a heavy favorite under veteran Coach Don Hamlin, one of the most respected coaches in the section. This grouping, with the exception of Briarcliff, will likely see one another right up through the small school Southern-Westchester regional playoffs. Don’t sleep on Westlake!

BRIARCLIFF

2019-20 Record & playoff result: 20-3, No.1 seed advanced to Class B sectional semi, lost to runner-up Irvington

Coach: Don Hamlin, 411-133 (27th year), 16 league championships, 2 section titles, 1 NYS title, 1 Federation championship

Key Departures: Bears lost five key seniors. Alana Lombardi (who is playing at Lafayette), Julia Barbalto (playing at the US Marine Academy), Kaitlyn Ryan and Julia Dallesandro, Baily Zednick

Key 2021 Players: Caroline Barbalato So., Cassidy Carraffiello So., Dylan Zednick So., Paola Galliano Sr., three-year starter Jordan Smith Sr. (6’2”), Rebecca Krait Jr., Eliza Aldridge Jr., Lulu Lutkus Jr., Kyla Miller Jr.

By the Numbers: Smith averaged just sort of a double-double (10.4 PPG, 8.6 RPG) and nearly 3 steals and 3 blocks per game.

Team Goals: As are many teams, we feel very fortunate to be given the opportunity to play this season. I’m just praying that our players and coaches made excellent decisions to allow us to continue to play.

Croton senior G Anna Eng will light up opposing defenders this season.

Pleasantville senior G Jenna McAllister will fill out stat sheets with stellar all-around play and high IQ.

Haldane Coach Jessica Perrone will turn to Maddie Chiera for a strong junior season.

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Girls’ Hoops Preview

Westlake senior G/F Nicole Karaqi will play versatile role for 2021 Wildcats.

Coach: Sean Mayer, 20th season
Key Departures: None
Key Returning Players: All five starters return. Allie Castellone, soph. G; Nicole Karaqi, sr. G; Julie Lyden, jr., F; ToniAnn Mastracchio, soph., point guard; Sami Oswald, soph., G;
Daily Newcomers: TBD
League Favorite: This could be Pleasantville’s year, though Briarcliff is always stough.
By the Numbers: Castellone 11 PPG; Karaqi 8 PPG, 171 rebs, 34 steals; Lyden 7PPG, 173 boards; Mastracchio 7 PPG, 34 steals
Team Goals: Challenge for league title and seriously improve upon 7-15 record
Coach’s Comments: Allie is a special talent. Nicole is our only senior so her leadership is key. Julie plays year round and provides a post presence. We have some really good shooters in the mix. We were young last year and had lost four starters from the year before but we battled. I was very excited to see their smiling faces in the limited pre-season workouts we had. We’ve got our top five back, so we’re excited.

NORTH
Putnam Valley, Haldane, North Salem, Croton, Pawling

This should be Put Valley’s league to win; it’s certainly there for the taking. The Tigers are the defending league and Section 1 Class B champions (their first ever), and have the league’s premier talent in 5’10” sophomore point guard Eva DeChent, who scored 39 points in a regional semifinal last March before the COVID-19 pandemic ended the Tigers’ dream of a state title. Teamed with Arianna Stockinger and Amanda Orlando, the Tigers might have the top trio in the league and can certainly contend for the Putnam-Northern Westchester small school regional title should Section 1 go that route.

PUTNAM VALLEY
2019-20 Record & playoff result: 21-3, No.2 seeded Section 1 Class B champions, NYS regional round winner
Coach: Kristi Dini (over 150 wins, 1 Section 1 title, 7 league titles between PV, Croton, Pawling)
Key Departures: Kelli Venezia, Cierra Daughtry
Key Departures: Kelli Venezia (tough loss for a coach and a program, one of the top guards in the entire section last year); Cyera Daughtry
Key Returning Players: Pace-bound senior F Arianna Stockinger; DI prospect Eva DeChent, soph G; junior G Amanda Orlando
Key Newcomers: Emma Windrum - F, Maddie Sena - G, Lucia Thoreson - G
League Favorite: Put Valley
By the Numbers: Anna Eng (18 PPG) is a special, dedicated talent.
Team Goals: Be a top 1-2 in our League, Top 5 in Class B

Put Valley

Sports
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Coach: Dillon Clark (3rd year, 30-14)
Key Departures: None
Key Returning Players: Jenna McAllister, G, Senior; 2x All-League; Lila Donohue, F, Senior; Mary Grace O’Neill, G, Senior; All-League; Julia O’Reilly, F, Senior; Tina Matica, G, Junior; All-League
Key Newcomers: Ruby Donohue, F, Soph.; Gianna Doto, G, Soph.; Mia Hoxhaj, Soph.
League Favorite: Briarcliff
By the Numbers: McAllister (11.4 PPG, 11.4 RPG, 3.5 APG, 2.5 SPG); O’Neill (11.4 PPG, 5 RPG, 2.5 APG, 2.5 SPG); Matica (10 PPG, 60 made threes, 2.1 APG)
Team Goals: Our team’s goal is to go into the season with the same momentum that we finished last season with. We’re a close team and look forward to continuing to develop the chemistry that makes our team competitive. Having this group that has played together for so many years, we are optimistic about making this season a memorable one, especially for our seniors.
Coach’s Comments: Same as what my captains communicated for the team goals. The combined number of varsity seasons for this season class entering this year is 18 seasons.

WESTLAKE
2019-20 Record & playoff result: 7-15, No.16 seed lost to No.1 Briarcliff in opening round

Coach: Joe Streany
Key Departures: All-Conference Grace Reyner, Erin Reynolds, Nikki Buglisi
Key Returning Players: Anna Eng, Sr., All-Section G (1,000 point scorer); Sofia Tuman - Sr., G; Madison Archer - Sr., G; Tamera Taylor-Moore – Jr., G
Key Newcomers: Emma Windrum - F, Maddie Sena - G, Lucia Thoreson - G
League Favorite: Put Valley
By the Numbers: Anna Eng (18 PPG) is a special, dedicated talent.
Team Goals: Be a top 1-2 in our League, Top 5 in Class B
Coach's Comments: Looking forward to a returning group of veterans who bring an abundance of hoops knowledge to the court to groom along our young core. We have a promising future ahead with the leadership of Hard working Anna Eng. We look forward to the challenges a new league and season brings.

HALDANE
2019-20 Record & playoff result: 12-11
Coach & Record: Jessica Perrone (12-11, first season as varsity coach); team’s 7th year straight sectional title
Key Departures: Liv Monteleone, Bela Monteleone, Shianne Twoguns, Abigail Platt
Key Returning Players: Maddie Chiera, junior guard; Molly Siegel, junior forward; Essie Florke, senior guard; Marisa Scanga, junior guard/forward
Key Newcomers: Amanda Johanson, sophomore guard/forward; Mairead O’Hara, sophomore guard; Moretta Pezzullo, sophomore point guard
League Favorite: Put Valley, Croton-Harmon
By the Numbers: Chiera (10.4 PPG, 3 RPG)
Team Goals: Compete in our league and place in the top 2. Maintain the high-intensity defense from previous seasons.
Coach’s Comments: This is a rebuilding year for the team as we graduated four key seniors. I have full confidence in my players that we will be a competitive, tough team for each opponent. It might be a rebuilding year, but we have a lot of solid players on the roster.

CONFERENCE I SOUTHEAST
White Plains, Mamaroneck, Mt. Vernon, New Rochelle, Scarsdale, Ursuline
White Plains should be up to the task of challenging in one of the toughest leagues in the section, including Ursuline, the reigning Class AA section champs and overwhelming favorites to win the league and regional titles. The Lady Tigers are still young, despite their varsity experience. Should they stick together, this unit is poised to do some damage.

WHITE PLAINS
2019-20 Record & Playoff result: 15-7, as No.8 seed beat No.9 North Rockland in 1st Round, lost to No.1 Ursuline in quarterfinals
Coach & Record: Benjamin Carter (5th year at W.P., won 2 sectional and 4 league titles at Hamilton)
Key Departures: Julia Reggio, Savannah Williams
Key Returning Players: All-League Aliya McIver, 5’7” soph.; G; Sequoia Layne 6’ fresh.; F; Ineivi Plata, 5’4” fresh.; G; India Newman 5’8” fresh.; G; Daisy Klink 5’9” senior F
Key Newcomers: Anneliese Reggio 5’7” soph. G
League Favorite: I like the way Ursuline and Ossining play. They built solid programs on the AA level and are the two teams that usually play for the championship.
By the Numbers: McIver averaged 14 PPG; 5 RPG, 4 APG; rebounds; Plata 10 PPG, 4 steals; Layne 8 RPG
Team Goals: We will continue to pursue winning our league, making it past the 2nd round of playoffs to eventually playing for a AA sectional championship.
Coach’s Comments: We have a young athletic core group of talented players who likes to compete defensively. We are looking forward to competing against the top schools. With this group we can continue to be a defensive threat despite losing our top player (Julia Reggio) who held the young team together. We have a desire to make it back to the playoffs with different results than last year is the plan.

CHSAA
KENNEDY CATHOLIC PREP
2019-20 Record & playoff result: 8-12 first round playoff loss
Coach: Len Yearwood 6th year
Key Returning Players: Sr. Allessia Carlo (All-League); Sr. Taylor Brenneman; Sr. Abby Mascia; Jr. Caroline Selinger
Key Newcomers: juniors Clare Traynor, Levine (wing) JR Kayla Raucci(guard) JR Katie Geraghty
Team Goals: Stay healthy, stay safe , have fun.
Coach’s Comments: Very optimistic about this upcoming season. Looking to see how we can perform after the big layoff. We will be leaning on Allessia and Taylor to provide our scoring punch. Abby is a four-year varsity player and we need her experience more than ever, but I’m also looking for big time input from Caroline and Clare on both ends of the floor.”

Girls hoops coaches are encouraged to email results, stats and comments to Raygallaghersports@gmail.com for inclusion in our weekly