

For 4 Class B Schools, It is a whole new season!!

By Joseph Lee

Wednesday, November 4th will mark the beginning of four team's journey to the Nassau County Class B Championship. Each team brings a group of talented athletes in search of the title. The two-time Class B County champions, Cold Spring Harbor are looking to continue their winning streak, while Oyster Bay, Carle Place and Wheatley will be fighting to take the title home with them.

The top-seeded Cold Spring Harbor Seahawks had a slow start to the season but finished strong only losing one in their last nine games. A talented defense and senior goalkeeper, Taylor Silverstein, played a large role in their success tallying three shut-outs. Fellow senior Alex Alendandrou was the leading goal scorer for the Seahawks and Sophomore Colby Spehler had the most assists.

Oyster Bay, fresh off its first conference championship since 1999, will look to stop the 3-peat with a strong senior core. The Baymen went undefeated in their bid to become Conference 5 champion going 10-0-2. Two-time all County co-captain, Chris Murdock and 13-goal scorer Tom Trieber will look to continue their regular season success in the playoffs. Fellow seniors Harry Nicastro, Andy Rubio, goalie Eric Seaman, and junior Jon Heaney make up a strong defense which posted six shutouts this season. Oyster Bay will look for their experienced senior class to lead the way in overthrowing the defending country champions.

Carle Place returns to the Class B semi-finals with a mix of strong offense and defense. The offensive is led by senior captains Chris Barbosa and Ricky Jarvis who contributed 23 goals and 15 assists combined during the regular season, making up a very dangerous scoring tandem. The defense has been led all season by captain Peppe Iuliucci and Danny Marques. In the net, Stephen Laurino emerged as the starting keeper and has done a fine job late in the season. Carle Place was very happy with their finish in the middle of a very tough Conference ABC2.

Carle Place will have to get by a strong defensive team in Wheatley who finished the season 6-3-3 in Conference ABC3. This is probably one of the youngest teams in the playoffs with a roster boasting one 9th grader and eleven 10th graders. The team is led by all conference selection Junior Jake Butwin who missed most of the season with a leg injury and hopes to return in time for the playoffs. Senior Kiern Lang (All Conference) contributed 4G 5A, while junior Oliver Parizat had 4G 3A. The team must cope with the loss of Captain Michael Merlo (Honorable Mention/All County) who was lost to a broken ankle late in the season. The team was tied for third in Nassau County with eight shutouts on the season. Freshman goalkeeper Eric Orlogio continues to improve and impress each game. Sophomore BJ Schiela and Senior Taisei Chiba anchor a very stingy defense. If the team can stay healthy, look for Wheatley to make some noise in the playoffs. With youth comes energy and excitement, hopefully that can be a secret weapon for Whealtery.

The Nassau County Class B final will be held at 6pm on Saturday, November 7th at the Mitchel Athletic Conference. With four talented teams, the title is up for grabs!