



MAX PRESS

www.MaxLaxIndy.com

March 2018 – Article 2 Lacrosse News for Central Indiana- pg. 1

Early Season Insights

By Byron Stankus
March-2018

The IHSLA lacrosse season has gotten off to a start despite the cold weather. There have been some interesting games and results so far. It will be interesting to see if these trends hold or will things shift as the weather warms and spring breaks are behind us.

GAMES IN REVIEW>>>

The first early season game I was looking forward to seeing was the Carmel vs. Zionsville match up. I was curious how the Greyhounds would respond after the off-season and the late fall hire of Coach Jack Meachum. I was wondering if the Eagles would rise up to their rival. With a first quarter that was 3-3, it looked like there might be a heck of a game at hand. But the absolute domination at the faceoff X by Jordan Walker of Carmel and the ball possession time weighing heavily in Carmel's favor that was not to be. The two-way midis of Zionsville and their entire defense tired. The bright spot for the Eagles was the play of Luke Paul. But his effort wasn't enough; Carmel won handily 14-4.

Carmel followed that game with a big out-of-state loss to Louisville, St. Xavier. It won't hurt the in-state standings but it could be a wake-up call to show they aren't quite where they are used to being.

HSE also has suffered out-of-state losses. But that can be expected. I also think HSE isn't quite where they want to be but seeing where they fall with in-state competition will really make their season clearer.

Cathedral too, took a big loss. For them it was Culver Prep 18-2. But the Eagles' prep team may well be the best team in the country, so it is hard to get a clear read on Cathedral yet. They did win an out-of-state game too. Their schedule is so tough and their team so young it will take a couple of weeks to figure out what they are. I still expect them to be excellent.

Guerin Catholic is a bit of an early season bright spot. They have knocked off 3 in-state wins already. They were games I expected them to win, but they won them nonetheless. They are 1-1 in out-of-state competition, but that will only help to make them better. The golden Eagles are not putting up big offensive numbers, that will have to improve for them to get to the next level. We'll see if they can make that happen.

There are two scores that I found a bit telling. Brebeuf Jesuit beat Noblesville 17-10 and Penn beat Noblesville 9-6. I see these scores as a bit of a bell-weather for these teams. Brebeuf Jesuit is right where I thought they'd be and I look forward to seeing them a bit better when they see the next level competition. Penn is a bit of a surprise. I knew they had athletes but with a 2-0 start (beat Evansville North 10-6), they might be a solid playoff team. And finally, in this group, Noblesville took losses they didn't expect, I imagine they'll right the ship after spring break and string together a bunch of wins.

UPCOMING GAMES>>>

With Spring breaks coming up; there are not a lot of games on the schedule. Here are a few of note that you might want to keep an eye on.

Guerin Catholic @ Noblesville, Thursday, March 22 at 7:30pm. This has been a bit of a rivalry over the past few years. This would be a great time for Noblesville to right the ship and get the arrow moving in the up direction. It also might be a quality win for Guerin Catholic as they take that next step forward, without a stumble.

Penn @ Heritage Christian, Saturday, March 24 at 1:00pm. This is an opportunity for Penn to cement their place in the middle of the playoff hunt. It is also a big game for Heritage to figure out what they have and if they can run with an athletic team with their small roster.

Guerin Catholic @ Zionsville, Wednesday, March 28 at 7:00pm. It looks to be a defensive battle with a low score, but if one of them is going to have their offense step up to the next level, going against these defenses would be the time to do it.

Cathedral @ Brebeuf Jesuit, Wednesday, April 4 at 7:00pm. Here is when we should get our first good look at what Cathedral really has. It might also be a spot for the Braves to make a stand about their season.